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A TALE OF TWO NEWCOMERS

DAY 4 OF METRO'S LOOK
AT IMMIGRATION: THE
CHALLENGES AND THE
REWARDS OF COMING
TO CANADA **PAGE 18**



Four injured in office stabbing spree

Police say employee of human
resources company's Toronto office
had been fired just before the attack
PAGE 16

Boys break out of Trailer Park

Use Metro AR to watch Ricky, Julian
and Bubbles sell you on their new
movie, Don't Legalize It
PAGE 24



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Gurpreet Ronald, 34, seen in this Facebook photo, was charged Wednesday morning with first-degree murder in the Jan. 29 death of Jagtar Gill, 43. **FACEBOOK**

Bus driver charged with murder in Jagtar Gill killing

Family shocked.
Woman accused of
murdering Barrhaven
mother of three
worked with
victim's husband



**JOE
LOFARO**
joe.lofaro@metronews.ca

An OC Transpo driver was charged Wednesday with first-degree murder in the death of her co-worker's wife, Jagtar Gill, who was found dead on Jan. 29 in her Barrhaven home.

Gurpreet Ronald, 34, kept silent with her head down, using her hair to shield most of her face as she entered the courtroom Wednesday morning in Ottawa. Scores of relatives and supporters of the Gill family packed the courtroom and could be seen cry-

ing and hugging each other.

Gill, 43, was a mother to three kids.

Ronald is a mother of two girls and worked with the victim's husband who is also an OC Transpo bus driver. She lived just around the corner from Gill's Brambling Way home in the Half Moon Bay community.

Ronald's husband observed the proceeding in court to see her face the charges.

Defence lawyer Bruce Engel said the man was shocked to learn of the charges against his wife on Tuesday.

"He's probably in more shock than she is," said Engel to reporters outside the courthouse. "I called him to let him know, whereas my client called me. She knew well before so I didn't gauge her reaction."

Police arrested Ronald after asking her to come to the police station to provide a blood sample, Engel said.

Court date

Gurpreet Ronald is scheduled to return to court on April 16.

Gill's brother-in-law, Kulwinder Sidhu, is also an OC Transpo worker. Sidhu told Metro Wednesday afternoon it was "unbelievable" to see Ronald step into the prisoner's box, given the fact that she is a co-worker of Gill's husband, Bhupinderpal Gill, and the two of them socialized at work.

"It was shocking for everyone, for all the family," said Sidhu.

"I saw them on OC Transpo property. (I saw Gurpreet and Bhupinderpal) walking together, sitting together, in the car in the parking lot. I saw them together a few times at work."

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Thousands of kids flock to Ottawa for National We Day

'Me to We'. No more powerful voice for young people, than young people themselves, Queen Noor of Jordan tells students



LUCY SCHOLEY
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Jonah Leinwand was just one Ottawa kid among thousands from across the country at the National We Day event on Wednesday, but he's already a budding change-maker.

The 11-year-old student at the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) came to the event with his mom last year as a reporter for her blog, Macaroni Kid. This year, he inspired his entire Grade 6 class to join the Free the Children initiative.

They were among the 16,000 students and teachers at the Canadian Tire Centre for the energetic day of celebrity performances and world-

Quoted

"(Free the Children is) really trying to inspire kids to do things hands-on ... instead of just standing back and talking about it or criticizing it."

Simple Plan lead singer Pierre Bouvier

renowned speakers.

"It's an amazing thing, because We Day is all about youth and activism in the community, so me being here is pretty amazing," said Leinwand, while taking a break in the media room.

"You realize how small you really are."

In a sense, Leinwand embodies the "Me to We" spirit of We Day, which aims to inspire youth to act globally. It's part of We Act, a school program that has raised \$37 million for more than 1,000 local and global charities since it started in 2007.

"There is no more powerful voice for young people



Neverest frontman Spyros "Spee" Chalkiotis takes to the Canadian Tire Centre stage for We Day on Wednesday.
LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

than young people themselves," said Queen Noor of Jordan, to the crowd of cheering kids. She was among

other world-renowned speakers like Gov. Gen. David Johnston and Martin Luther King III.

Juno award-winning acts like Simple Plan and Kardinal Offishall topped the bill of musical acts.

Stopping buses at every rail crossing can boost crash risk: Study



Most rail crossings used by OC Transpo are protected with flashing lights, bells and gates.
COURTESY OF CITY OF OTTAWA

Requiring OC Transpo buses to stop at railway crossings whether or not signals are flashing might actually increase — not decrease — the risk of accidents, according to a city-commissioned study released Wednesday.

"Intuitively, many people think that it would be a safer practice to require transit vehicles to stop at railway crossings, and many residents have suggested that we should make

that change immediately," said transit commission chair Diane Deans. "The transit commission cannot rely on gut instinct or intuition. Rather, we need to make fact-based decisions supported by the best possible evidence."

Consultants MMM Group cited research that concluded making buses stop at signal-equipped crossings makes for longer crossing times and more chance of driver error, increas-

ing the likelihood of a train hitting them by 17.4 per cent. While always stopping reduces the odds of a bus hitting a train by 3.3 per cent and guards against signal failures, the risk of other accidents — including vehicles rear-ending and side-swiping each other — increases.

The transit commission considers the report at their April 16 meeting, Deans said, but it's not meant to pre-judge the federal Transportation Safety

Board's investigation of September's fatal accident at the Fallowfield crossing.

There are 75 level crossings in Ottawa, and regularly scheduled OC Transpo buses pass over 20 of them. All have signal lights and 14 have gates. The city intends, based on the study, to install gates at four more crossings (on Herzberg, Lester, March and McCarthy) at a cost of \$200,000 to \$400,000.

STEVE COLLINS/FOR METRO

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1 NEWS

Ont. nurses fight proposed wage cuts for new hires

Ontario nurses negotiating a new contract say they are “flabbergasted” at a proposed three per cent wage cut for new hires and worry the cuts will create a “two-class” system that will push young nurses to seek work in more competitive markets.

The Ontario Nurses’ Association (ONA) also rejected a 0.4 per cent pay increase over the next two years pitched by the province’s hospital negotiating body and argues the increase isn’t enough for an aging workforce.

“We can’t count on nurses working into their 60s or 70s,” said ONA first vice-president Vicki McKenna, also a registered nurse. “We have to make this a place to work and we have to make it a respectful province to work in.”

What worries McKenna the most is a proposal to reduce salaries by three per cent for new hires or any experienced nurse who changes hospitals.

A proposed two-year con-

tract now before an arbitrator offers annual general wage increases of 0.4 per cent plus annual lump sum payments of 0.4%.

Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) President and CEO Anthony Dale said his organization wanted to reach a four year deal with the nurses, “with roughly 0.7 per cent a year over for years and similar lump sum payments.”

It’s important to note that bargaining terms are often different than proposals sent to arbitration.

“Where we just weren’t able to agree is how much of an increase the hospital sector could afford to give,” said Dale.

The ONA is seeking a two per cent pay increase for all nurses, better weekend, shift and on-call premiums as well as improved vacation time. All have been opposed by the OHA.

The ONA says it hopes the arbitrator will render a decision this spring.

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO



Ontario Nurses’ Association president Linda Haslam-Stroud speaks to members of the Ontario Nurses’ Association (ONA) and nursing students at a rally at Queen’s Park in Toronto on March 19. COURTESY JOHN MACLENNAN/ONTARIO NURSES’ ASSOCIATION



Father Senay Admasu Kasa holds a photo of wife Atsede Desta Ketema and sons Bereket Senay Admasu, left, and Nathanael Senay Admasu. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

Ethiopians call on feds to reunite priest with family

Immigration rejection. Congregation angered as MP says file caught in ‘bureaucratic trap’



LUCY SCHOLEY
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Father Senay Admasu Kasa has not seen his wife and two teen-aged sons since he moved to Ottawa five years ago because, he said, the family’s immigration

applications have been repeatedly rejected.

So members of his congregation showed up to Parliament Hill Wednesday morning armed with hundreds of letters calling on the government to intervene and bring the priest’s family to the city.

NDP MP Paul Dewar said the family’s file has been caught up in a “bureaucratic trap” of new immigration reforms. But he said the law still allows the family of a visiting clergy to relocate with him.

The work that the father

does is to support families in the community and that’s what spiritual leaders do,” said Dewar, who received the letters and plans to hand-deliver them to Citizenship and Immigration Canada. “What seems logical to me is that we could at least support him by bringing his family here, because that, obviously, is going to help him do the work that he does.”

Father Admasu Kasa moved to Canada on a work permit and now has a valid visitor record. Speaking through translator Gamachu Bariso, the priest

said he misses his family and talks to them at least three times a week.

Between 400 to 600 members attend his services every week at St. Teklehaimanot Ethiopian Orthodox Church on Merivale Road.

After the last priest passed away, Bariso said the Ethiopian community had been without a priest for about a year and required Father Admasu Kasa on a matter of “urgency.”

“People need him,” he said. “It’s not easy to get other priests.”

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*to p. 100 April 30, 2014. Some conditions apply.




Chelsea landslide shuts down highway

A major landslide closed down Highway 105 in Chelsea, Que., and although the road continued to crumble, two nearby homes — one about 20 metres from the sinkhole — were not evacuated. The landslide gave way around 3 p.m. Tuesday and officials shut down the roadway until further notice. It’s not the first time the road has collapsed at the ravine; a similar landslide happened in the same spot last year. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO



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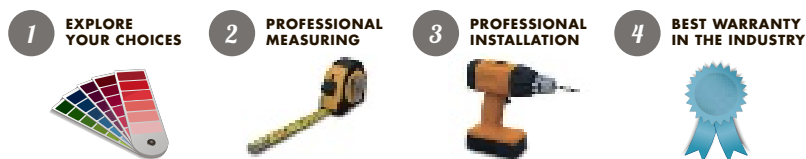


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06

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Thursday, April 10, 2014



A screengrab of a video of an altercation between two men outside the RA Centre last August which led to an Ottawa police criminal investigation and now charges. YOUTUBE.COM

Shriner charged after circus scuffle

Video. Clip posted to YouTube being used as evidence in case against Lionel Rowe, 67

Ottawa police are using video footage which was posted to YouTube depicting a circus protest that took a violent turn outside the RA Centre last summer when an animal rights advocate was attacked during a demonstration.

Police told Metro Wednesday that Lionel Rowe, 67, was charged in January with one count each of assault and theft under \$5,000 stemming from the Aug. 10, 2013, incident. Rowe is listed as chairman of the Tunis Shriners in Ottawa on the service club's website.

Ottawa Animal Defence

League (OADL) volunteer Len Goldberg says a man approached him while he was handing out pamphlets, stole his hat, and put him in a "guillotine choke" hold in the middle of the protest. A bystander can be seen in the video intervening and putting a man who appears to be Rowe into a rear naked chokehold.

A portion of the video appears on both YouTube and Liveleak.com.

Ottawa police spokesperson Marc Soucy said investigators have the video and "several" witnesses statements.

"I was terrified and I feared for my life, literally," said Len Goldberg in an interview last August.

Goldberg said Wednesday he hopes the charges will force Shriners to "part ways" with both Rowe and the cir-

cus. "Given that Lionel Rowe placed me in a chokehold for half a minute and had to be forcibly pried loose from me, then you bet, assault is an appropriate charge," said Goldberg.

He also said the OADL plans to protest against Shriners events again this summer.

Rowe could not be reached for comment Wednesday. He is expected to appear in court on April 24.

Michele Thorn, the woman who recorded the incident with her cellphone camera, said in an interview last August she thought it was necessary to record the scuffle in order to show police. "I felt completely helpless," she said. "It was definitely horrible because I didn't know how to help my friend."

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Gatineau

Man, 19, charged after allegedly stealing three cars

A 19-year-old Ottawa man appeared in court Wednesday afternoon on numerous charges stemming from three vehicle thefts in Gatineau early that morning.

Two diplomatic vehicles were reported stolen from a residence on Champêtre Street around 3:30 a.m. Police found one abandoned nearby. They spotted and chased the other until the driver abandoned it on Vanier Road and fled on foot.

Police say he stole a third vehicle, in which he was arrested shortly afterwards, on Fraser Road.

STEVE COLLINS/FOR METRO

OC Transpo. Man charged for allegedly spitting on, threatening bus driver

Police have charged an Ottawa man after he allegedly spat on an OC Transpo driver Tuesday during the afternoon rush hour.

Police quickly responded to the incident at 5:30 p.m. near the intersection of Albert and Bay streets.

OC Transpo declined to comment on the incident and referred all questions to Ottawa police.

Police spokesperson Marc Soucy said the accused, who is known to police, was arrested not far from where the incident started.


Peter, who asked that his full name not be published, emailed Metro late Tuesday

with a recounting of the incident and how he intervened. When reached by phone Wednesday, he said he remembered seeing the driver of the 96 Kanata yell at a passenger for boarding the rear of the bus without paying.

"Then he started arguing with the driver and spitting in the driver's face. I saw a scuffle and then at that point me and two other guys ran up trying to get in between and at this point the guy ran off the bus," recalled Peter.

Samuel Dalziel, 22, was charged with assault and uttering death threats.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

A woman with brown hair pulled back, wearing a vibrant red, sleeveless, knee-length dress with a halter-style neckline. She is standing with her arms crossed, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. She is wearing large, ornate gold earrings and a matching gold bracelet on her left wrist. Her shoes are gold-colored sandals with intricate designs. The background is a soft-focus, abstract composition of vertical stripes in shades of purple, pink, and beige, with a large, light-colored circular shape behind her.

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PC Leader Tim Hudak rises during question period in the Ontario legislature in Toronto on Tuesday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gas plants. PCs accuse Wynne of using 'libel chill'

Ontario's Progressive Conservatives are asking Premier Kathleen Wynne to drop a "frivolous" lawsuit they say is aimed at avoiding more embarrassing revelations in the Liberals' \$1.1 billion gas plant scandal ahead of a possible spring election.

PC Leader Tim Hudak wasn't in question period Wednesday, but PC's John Yakabuski asked Wynne to halt

her efforts to use "libel chill" to silence the Opposition.

Government house leader John Milloy rejected the libel chill accusation, and said justice committee hearings into the gas plants and missing emails are still uncovering new details and calling witnesses. The Tories must climb down, he added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Pauline Marois walks past Pierre Karl Peladeau as she leaves the stage after her speech.

They came to — not to bury

Parti Québécois' Shakespearean tragedy. Possible contenders addressed PQ faithful before defeated leader announced resignation

Drainville and Nicole Leger came to praise Marois before she buried her own political career a few moments later.

Lisee and Leger extolled Marois' qualities and the party's determination to fight on, while Drainville and Peladeau made a pitch to sovereigntist hearts.

Peladeau insisted the PQ caucus would continue to "defend the interests of Quebecers and the country" while Drainville was even more forceful, giving a stemwinder speech on the virtues of the goal to make Quebecers masters of their own destiny.

A dark horse candidate is former Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe, who quit as chief of that party when it was decimated by the New Democratic Party in the 2011 federal election.

Many sovereigntists find Duceppe appealing because of his wide popularity but others chafe at the possibility he would try to bring the iron discipline he imposed on the Bloc to the more freewheeling PQ.

Others who might take a run at the leadership are former cabinet ministers Leger, Sylvain Gaudreault and Veronique Hivon, although their profile isn't considered as high as those of Lisee, Drainville and Peladeau.

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at the party election headquarters Monday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSEON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

praise Marois her career?

Who will likely lead battered Parti Québécois?

Top three possible contenders

Political rookie Pierre Karl Peladeau and two party stalwarts, Jean-Francois Lisee and Bernard Drainville, have often been mentioned as eventual successors to Pauline Marois, although it has also been suggested Peladeau might not have the patience to toil in Opposition and rebuild a shattered party after so many years as a corporate titan.

The 52-year-old has mused he would be an ideal negotiator for Quebec with Canada although his polarizing reputation with many is of someone who relies more on lockouts to resolve contract disputes. That seems to cancel out the benefit of his business credentials with the PQ's left wing.

Others profess a bigger knock against him. They say his fist-pumping, enthusiastic embracing of an independent Quebec at his campaign launch on March 9 started the PQ election effort's careening skid into the ditch.

Drainville, a former TV reporter for the CBC, was the point man for the controversial secularism charter and promoted it with almost missionary zeal. One of the more popular ministers within the PQ, the fluently bilingual Drainville studied at the London School of Economics. The 50-year-old was also Radio-Canada's correspondent in Latin America before being assigned to Ottawa and Quebec City as a political reporter. First elected in 2007, he served as the PQ health critic before being re-elected in 2008 and 2012, when he was named minister of democratic institutions.

Lisee, a former journalist, author and professor, was Marois's minister of international relations as well as being responsible for Montreal. The 56-year-old also often handled the hot-button issue of language. A well-known sovereigntist thinker, Lisee advised PQ premiers Jacques Parizeau and Lucien Bouchard, serving as one of the architects of Parizeau's strategy in the 1995 referendum that was nearly won by sovereigntists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec corruption probe

Ex-construction firm boss admits to collusion

A former Quebec construction boss says his firm was involved in systemic collusion on provincial government contracts over a period of several years.

Normand Bedard's admission Wednesday came as the former president of

major construction firm Sintra confirmed the existence of rigging on infrastructure contracts.

The Charbonneau Commission, which is looking into corruption within Quebec's construction industry, began turning its attention this week to contracts involving the provincial Transport Department. It's one of the final topics left before a final report.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. Senate

Republicans block bill on women's pay discrimination

U.S. Senate Republicans derailed a Democratic bill Wednesday curbing paycheck discrimination against women, an effort that even in defeat Democrats hoped would pay political dividends in this fall's congressional elections.

Wednesday's vote fell seven short of the 60 needed.

With opinion polls showing Democratic voters less enthusiastic than Republicans this year, Democrats aimed the measure at women, who lean more toward their party than men. They were also casting the issue as a crucial one for the middle class because so many families rely on female wage-earners.

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Scans show details of mummy's body

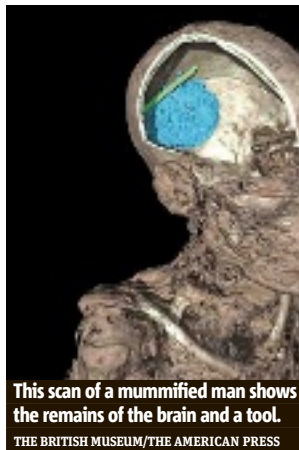
British Museum. Scientists 'thrilled' to discover embalming tools in mummy's skull

Our fascination with mummies never gets old. The British Museum is using the latest technology to unwrap their ancient mysteries.

Scientists at the museum have used CT scans and sophisticated imaging software to go beneath the bandages, revealing skin, bones, preserved internal organs — and in one case a brain-scooping rod left inside a skull by embalmers.

The findings go on display next month in an exhibition that sets eight of the museum's mummies with detailed images of their insides and 3D printed replicas of some items buried with them.

Director Neil MacGregor said 6.8 million people visited the London institution last year, "and every one asked



This scan of a mummified man shows the remains of the brain and a tool.
THE BRITISH MUSEUM/THE AMERICAN PRESS

one of my colleagues, 'Where are the mummies?'"

The museum has been X-raying its mummies since the 1960s, but modern CT scanners give a vastly sharper image.

Just like live patients, the mummies chosen for the exhibition were scanned at London hospitals — though they

were wheeled in after hours. The museum's scientists were thrilled to discover a spatula-like probe still inside one man's skull, along with a blob of brain.

"The tool at the back of the skull was quite a revelation, because embalmers' tools are something that we don't know much about," said John Taylor, museum mummy expert.

Another mummy, a woman who lived in Sudan around 700 A.D., was a Christian with a tattoo of the Archangel Michael's name on her inner thigh.

The star of the show is Tamut, a temple singer from a family of high-ranking priests. She died around 900 B.C.

Her brightly decorated casket has never been opened, but the scans have revealed her well-preserved body, her face and short-cropped hair.

"Come back in another five years and you will hear Tamut sing," MacGregor said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Plunket's princely play date

Britain's Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, holds Prince George, left, during a visit to a Plunket nurse-and-parents group on Wednesday at Government House in Wellington, New Zealand. Plunket is a not-for-profit organization providing care for children and families. MARTY MELVILLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airport scare

Man found with loaded handgun

A Virginia man was arrested at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport after a loaded handgun was found in his bag at a security checkpoint.

Maryland Transportation Authority Police say 36-year-old Ryan Watson of Stafford, Va., was charged.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Infertility

Italian court lifts ban on donations

Italy's constitutional court has struck down a ban on egg or sperm donation for infertile couples.

Health Minister Beatrice Lorenzin, who said the law had effectively been "gutted," called on Parliament to revise it.

The conservative law reflects the influence on lawmakers by the Vatican, whose teaching forbids artificial procreation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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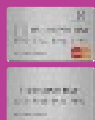
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Need more troops in Central African Republic: Envoy

Chad withdrawing.

U.S. ambassador said there's a need for more troops; UN votes Thursday on expanding its role

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations on Wednesday urged more support for existing African and French troops in Central African Republic on the eve of a UN vote to create a peacekeeping mission.

Ambassador Samantha Power, making her second visit to the country since unprecedented sectarian violence erupted in December,

Muslims waiting

"What I think the UN is trying to do is to make sure we go on a case-by-case basis."

U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power
At least 19,000 Muslims are still trapped and unable to flee. Power said part of the challenge is finding out whether individuals want to leave or try staying.

said the African peacekeeping mission is now working to fill the gap left by neighbouring Chad. Last week the Chadian government began withdrawing its 850 troops following allegations some had indiscriminately killed dozens of unarmed civilians.

Power, who met Wednesday with top officials from

the African peacekeeping, said that Cameroonian and French forces were being moved into the areas previously guarded by the Chadians.

"There's no question that we need to redouble our efforts — we're making them every day anyway," she told reporters. "But this adds even more urgency to the task of getting more troops and more police deployed rapidly in order to fill those gaps which really do exist." The UN Security Council is due to vote Thursday on expanding the nearly 5,000-strong African mission in Central African Republic into a UN peacekeeping operation for the country of 4.6 million.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Putin turns up the heat on Ukraine

Masked pro-Russian activists guard barricades at the regional administration building in Donetsk, Ukraine, Wednesday. Russian President Vladimir Putin turned up the heat on Ukraine on Wednesday by threatening to demand advance payment for gas supplies, a move designed to exert economic pressure as Ukraine confronts possible bankruptcy, a mutiny by pro-Russian separatists in the east and a Russian military buildup across the border. EFREM LUKATSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'Prosecutions crucial'

UN reports on sexual violence in Congo

A new UN report says more than 3,600 women, children and men were subjected to sexual violence in Congo over a four-year period by the country's defence and security forces or armed rebels. The report, released Wednesday, said about half the attacks from 2010 through 2013 were by rebel groups and half by government forces.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fort Hood tragedy

Obama honours shooting victims

U.S. President Barack Obama says Americans are drawing strength from relatives of victims of the fatal shootings last week at the Fort Hood military base. He says the tragedy tears at wounds still raw from a previous shooting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Inciting violence'

Al-Jazeera journo arrested in Egypt

Egyptian authorities arrested a journalist Wednesday who worked for the Al-Jazeera satellite news network and other Islamist media for allegedly inciting and taking part in violence, the country's official news agency reported. Abdel-Rahman Shaheen, detained in the Suez Canal area, is suspected of taking part in and inciting attacks against police, including torching security vehicles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Sudan

UN mission criticized by MDs

In a criticism of the UN mission in South Sudan, Doctors Without Borders said Wednesday that the mission is refusing to quickly move 21,000 displaced people to safer grounds before the rainy season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dallaire pushing to erect reminder of war's horror

Mother Canada.

Decorated ex-soldier wants replica of Vimy Ridge sculpture within daily sight of MPs and senators

She strikes a mournful, solitary pose on the crest of a French ridge once soaked in Canadian blood — an image one prominent former soldier says should be a daily reminder to parliamentarians that their decisions have consequences.

Sen. Romeo Dallaire has been quietly lobbying the federal government to construct a replica of the monument known as Mother Canada, located on the eastern side of the Vimy Ridge memorial perched atop the famous battlefield in France.

Dallaire wants to see the new statue erected in Jacques-Cartier Park in Gatineau, Que., directly across the river from Parliament Hill and within sight of the offices of MPs and senators who would decide where and when to deploy troops in the future.

It's the sort of sober reflection the country needs in an age of hyper-partisan politics and emerging global crises, he said.

"As a nation, we will be called beyond our borders again," Dallaire said.

The idea started out as a way to commemorate both the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and the country's 150th birthday, both of which take place in 2017.

Wednesday marked the 97th anniversary of the battle, which claimed 3,598 Canadian lives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sculpture Mother Canada at Canadian National Vimy Memorial. GETTY IMAGES

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San Diego. Woman faces criminal charges for playing 'childish pranks'

A San Diego woman distraught over losing out on her family's dream house carried out a perverse revenge scheme to have the home's new owner raped, prosecutors said.

The defendant, Kathy Rowe, claims the scheme was a childish prank that got out of control and she intended no harm.

Rowe, 52, began by carrying out mild hoaxes on the young husband-and-wife homebuyers — like putting a stop on their mail and sending religious missionaries to their doorstep, U-T San Diego reported Tuesday.

Her actions soon became criminal, according to prosecutors. Rowe allegedly posed as the wife in online adult entertainment ads titled "Carmel Valley Freak Show," inviting strange men over to the couple's home for sex and describing scenarios of a rape fantasy to those who responded. The wife's photo and address were included in the postings.

"I love to be surprised and

have a man just show up at my door and force his way in the door and on me, totally taking me while I say no," Rowe wrote to one man who responded, according to the newspaper. One man decided to follow up on the offer, but was thwarted once by a locked gate and a second time when the husband answered the door.

The state appeals court last week ruled that Rowe, a county administrative analyst, will have to answer to felony counts of solicitation of rape and solicitation of sodomy — two charges that a Superior Court judge previously dismissed from the case.

In a letter to a judge, Rowe described as "devastating" the moment in 2011 when she lost the house due to miscommunication with real estate agents, and a more attractive bid from the other couple.

Rowe said that losing their house led her to behave in a "childish way" and play "childish pranks to let off steam."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



40 years of colourful eggs

Volker Kraft fixes an egg at an apple tree decorated with about 10,000 painted Easter eggs Wednesday in their Saalfeld garden in central Germany. The Kraft family has decorated their tree for Easter for more than forty years, remaining faithful to a German tradition called Ostereierbaum, meaning Easter egg tree. JENS MEYER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Finger-pointing

Fast accused of gun gestures

A New Democrat member of Parliament is accusing a Conservative MP of bullying him over an alleged finger-pointing incident in the House of Commons.

Toronto-area MP Dan Harris says he saw International Trade Minister Ed Fast make a gun gesture with his hand at NDP colleague Niki Ashton after she asked a question in the Commons.

Shortly after Harris raised the finger-pointing issue as a point of order, he says B.C. Conservative MP Ron Cannan approached him on the NDP side of the House and had to be physically restrained.

Fast has denied having made any hand gestures toward Ashton and has demanded an apology from Harris.

Ashton says that, while she didn't see Fast do anything, she was "shocked" at what she called a "threat" to her security.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Classic Corvettes

Prized cars are out of sinkhole

The last of eight classic Corvettes gobbled up by a giant sinkhole in Kentucky has been recovered, but the mood was sombre as the mangled car was pulled to the surface.

The 2001 Mallett Hammer Z06 Corvette was buried in dirt and rocks, dozens of feet below the surface of the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green. The man who donated the car to the museum, Kevin Helmin-toller, says the vehicle looks like a piece of tin foil.

The prized cars were swallowed by the sinkhole that opened up in February beneath part of the museum. Museum spokeswoman Katie Frassinelli says the damage was progressively worse as each car was pulled out.

The museum will display the cars through August. The ones deemed fixable will be shipped to Michigan for repairs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Man arrested after stabbing rampage at Toronto office

Attempted murder charges. Police say suspect had just been fired when he attacked, leaving four injured

An employee of a human resources company stabbed his superiors while being fired at a Toronto office building, police said Wednesday.

Police said four people were injured, including one woman who has life-threatening injuries.

Chuang Li, 47, faces three counts of attempted murder and four counts of aggravated assault with a knife.

Dan Darnbrough, a Toronto police detective, said employees held the man before police arrived. A 32-year-old woman and three men between the ages of 35 and 45 were injured, he said. Three remain hospitalized.

Ceridian, a global payroll



Toronto police stand outside an office building in the city's north end following a multiple stabbing. Police say a suspect is in custody following the stabbing, which left at least four people injured. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

and human resources company based in Bloomington, Minnesota, said four of its employees were attacked by a "former employee." Asked if the man attacked after being

fired, Ceridian released a statement that said "due to employee confidentiality guidelines, we are unable to share any additional information."

Police earlier said they were called at about 9:30 a.m. local time with reports that "a man with scissors" had entered the business and began stabbing people.

Television footage showed police putting a handcuffed man, wearing a bloodied shirt, into a police car. The man turned his head while in the backseat and said hello to

Quoted

"He was being fired and I guess then he proceeded to get involved in stabbing some of his bosses and some other employees."

Toronto police Det. Daniel Darnbrough

a TV camera pointed at him.

The man is due in court on Thursday. Police locked down the building's fifth floor to collect evidence.

The entire incident appeared to have rattled many working in the office complex.

"It was more stunned disbelief than anything," said Tony Bitonti, who works in the building next door, said of how the people around him were reacting to the stabbing. "It's fairly quiet, fairly tranquil around here and when something like this happens, it's weird."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wi-Fi? Why not! Vancouverites may soon enjoy free wireless web



EMILY JACKSON
Metro in Vancouver

Wouldn't it be nice to use free Wi-Fi instead of pricey cellular data plans when posting pics on Instagram of the sun setting over the beach?

Vancouver's park board figures residents and tourists would appreciate the option, and it will vote on a motion next week asking staff to determine potential locations for free public Wi-Fi, the cost of such a program and a timeline for implementing the service, Commissioner Trevor Loke announced Wednesday.

The city has been mulling free public Wi-Fi since at least 2005 — it's already in place at city hall and at the public library — and council passed a digital strategy last year promising to make Internet access a reality by 2016.

But Loke wants to get



Think these beachgoers at a packed Vancouver beach in 2013 would have been interested in free Wi-Fi? Vancouver's park board will vote on a motion next week to determine potential locations for free public Wi-Fi. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

the ball rolling on the plan to ensure the park board has a say in what places get Wi-Fi — suggestions so far have focused on busy downtown shopping strips.

"We want to make sure that park spaces are a priority within the digital strat-

egy," Loke said.

The park board will prioritize Internet access in spaces with high residential density and appeal for tourists.

It's not clear how much Wi-Fi infrastructure will cost, but the city is consid-

ering partnerships with local providers. The entire digital strategy was budgeted at \$30 million between 2013 and 2017.

Quebec City, Denver, Co., and Auckland, New Zealand, already provide free public Wi-Fi.

High steaks. Calgary police beefing up efforts to corral meat thieves

Police say a man accused in a dangerous high-speed drive through Calgary, speeding the wrong way down one-way streets before crashing into a fence, may be involved in a meat-theft ring.

Police investigators say supermarket meat is a prime target for thieves, and a sophisticated crime ring is being fuelled by rising food costs.

It's enough of a problem that police have a dedicated unit working to stop the trend.

Const. Lara Sampson says the stolen food is often exchanged for as little as 30 cents on the dollar, or for drugs, and some ends up in restaurants.

"We have them being sold out of the back of vehicles, we have them kept in dirty old garages," Sampson said. "It is very common in Calgary right now."

Gary Neil Firth, 49, faces numerous charges.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/GLOBAL CALGARY

New York

Paralyzed worker sues rail company for \$100 million

A railroad mechanic paralyzed in a deadly New York derailment says he forgives the man driving the train.

Samuel Rivera praised Metro-North Railroad on Wednesday as he an-

nounced a \$100-million lawsuit against it.

Rivera spoke from a rehabilitation centre north of New York City. He has no movement of his legs and very little in his arms.

Four people were killed and more than 70 injured in the Dec. 1 derailment in the Bronx. Rivera is calling for legislation mandating seat belts on public transportation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Graphic photo causes stir at Pistorius trial



Oscar Pistorius leaves the high court in Pretoria, South Africa, Wednesday.
THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prosecutor takes aggressive line.
Accused Olympian refuses to look at image of slain girlfriend's bloodied head

Oscar Pistorius refused to look at a photo of his dead girlfriend's bloody head wounds while testifying at his murder trial Wednesday as the prosecutor urged the star athlete to "take responsibility" for killing her.

"It's time that you look at it," chief prosecutor Gerrie Nel said, setting the stage for a rigorous first day of cross-examination of Pistorius, the double-amputee Olympian charged with premeditated murder for shooting Reeva Steenkamp three times through a toilet door at his home.

"I remember," Pistorius said

of Steenkamp's bloodied head, becoming distraught and then crying as he turned away from the gruesome image of the injuries he inflicted that were displayed next to him in a packed courtroom in South Africa's capital.

The showing of the photograph on TV screens in the courtroom caused gasps among spectators, who included Steenkamp's mother, June.

"I will not look at a picture where I'm tormented by what I saw and felt that night," Pistorius said. "As I picked Reeva up, my fingers touched her head. I remember. I don't have to look at a picture, I was there."

Pistorius, 27, says he shot Steenkamp in the pre-dawn hours on Valentine's Day — in the head, arm and hip — by mistake, thinking she was a dangerous intruder behind the door in his bathroom about to come out and attack him. Prosecutors charge he killed the 29-year-old intentionally.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Cuban Twitter.' Havana probes leak of half-million cellphone numbers

Cuba's government said Wednesday it has launched a probe into how hundreds of thousands of customer cellphone numbers fell into the hands of a U.S. government program that used them to secretly set up a mobile-based, Twitter-like social network on the island.

An Associated Press investigation revealed last week that the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) program used the data to build a subscriber base for the platform, dubbed ZunZuneo, with the idea that it could be used

to stir unrest.

Cuba considers such USAID programs to be subversive attempts to topple its Communist-run government. Officials told reporters that state telecom Etecsa had not provided the data to any international operator or entity, and that the information was obtained illegally.

Washington officials have defended the ZunZuneo program as consistent with U.S. law and described it as "discreet," rather than covert or classified. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan

Attempted murder case against baby prompts outcry

A nine-month-old Pakistani boy has been swept up in an attempted murder investigation that highlights the country's dysfunctional criminal justice system where even children are not immune from questionable legal decisions.

The toddler was brought to court last Friday as part of an investigation relating to an incident where residents in his neighbourhood clashed with police. He was granted bail by a judge.

The Jan. 31 altercation sparked police to open an attempted murder investigation into 30 people, including the father of the toddler and his unnamed son, said police officer Atif Zulfiqar, who is in charge of the area. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wounded by trains

Honduran migrants ask Mexico to allow free passage

About a dozen Honduran migrants who lost legs and arms after falling from trains during northbound journeys across Mexico asked the country's Senate on Tuesday to stop the government's persecution of Central Americans, protect them from criminal

gangs and contribute money to shelters for their care.

The migrants say that drug gang members and other criminals frequently beat, stab or push them from moving trains during their journeys through Mexico to the United States.

The migrants expressed hope that Mexico would agree to allow them transit visas or free passage without documents to cross the country on their way to the U.S. border.

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Good times, hard times

Coming to Canada is a challenge for anybody. Sometimes it goes well, and sometimes it doesn't. We talk to two people at different ends of the scale.

See that symbol? It means you can scan this image with your Metro News app to see a video clip featuring more immigrants who've made Canada home.

A truly Canadian quiz

The Canadian citizenship test was altered in 2010 to make it a little more difficult.

Since then, applicants have been required to answer 15 of 20 questions correctly, whereas previously they passed with 12 out of 20 correct responses — as long as they gave the right answer to certain mandatory questions.

The problem was those mandatory questions were always the same, making the test easy to beat by paying for the answers beforehand. (And, it's been proven that really was happening).

About 96 per cent of those taking the test before 2010 passed. The new formula has lowered the pass rate to 80 per cent or so.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) sends all applicants a study guide as soon as the paperwork is received.

"The best way to succeed at the citizenship test is to study Discover Canada," said a CIC official. "We encourage people to begin studying as soon as they apply for citizenship and receive their study guide."

As well, an online language test must be taken and passed before anything else happens.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

On the web

Can you pass? Give our practice citizenship test a try at metronews.ca



Priscilla Bunke, originally from Nigeria, lived in Germany for 11 years before moving to Canada. She's now a successful specialist in securities and derivatives regulatory law, as well as the energy and oil industries. CONTRIBUTED



MIKE DONACHIE
Metro in London, Ont.

Priscilla Bunke has come a long way, in more ways than one.

Her route to Canada was via Germany, where she spent 11 years. She then worked through a process of re-qualifying as a lawyer in Alberta, completing that in May 2012.

It's been 18 years since Bunke left her native Nigeria, and she's now a successful specialist in securities and derivatives regulatory law, as well as the energy and oil industries, with Dentons law firm in Calgary.

If that sounds impressive, it's because it is.

"It wasn't easy," she said. "But many people come here and succeed."

She's done a lot of work in the last 11 years, including 12 exams just to re-qualify in Canada.

"I wouldn't lie," said Bunke, 45, who has a 14-year-old son and an 11-year-old daughter. "Life is very good now. I'm very happy now. But it was tough."

She said working in Germany — where she completed a master's degree and worked as a corporate counsel for an insurance company — was tougher, mainly due to the language barrier.

In Canada, Bunke was able to find work quickly, spending three years as a legal researcher while she re-qualified.

But adjusting to Canada after she arrived in July 2007 brought its own challenges.

There's a greater emphasis on networking, she explained, and the lessons come thick and fast.

"What I've realized here is that if you are open to learning, then people are really, really kind and ready to help," Bunke said, adding that she values the Canadian mentors who offered their time.

"I've been very fortunate and blessed to meet people who have been amazing."



Jamie Martinez moved to Canada from Colombia in January 2008. He spent years working as a labourer in Canada and has been forced to tap into the welfare system. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

It's been a tough few years for Jamie Martinez.

Now 54, he came to Canada from Colombia in January 2008.

"My original background is mechanical engineering," Martinez said. "But I worked for Goodyear in Colombia for 17 years in human resources. I wanted to do something the same when I came to Canada, but I couldn't."

First, there was a language barrier.

Two ESL courses helped with that, but even applying for jobs was a problem, so there followed lessons in creating a resumé and looking for work.

Martinez spent years being offered only labourer jobs, and he's also been forced to tap into the welfare system. But he stayed determined to work in administration, in a similar job to the one he had in Colombia.

It took three years before he landed an office job, and he says his experience isn't rare — even the large numbers of university-educated immigrants face a steep climb, he said.

Martinez, who is in the country on a work visa and

Quoted

"We need more help to overcome all the problems we have."

Jamie Martinez

still trying, after six years, to get permanent resident status, says he's committed to Canada.

Nowadays, he works as executive director of the Latino Canadian Community Corporation in London, Ont., and is a leading light in the London Multicultural Club.

"Canada is amazing," he said.

"We love Canada. It's so family-oriented."

But he called on employers to be more open to newcomers, whose status is easily signalled with a SIN card number that starts with "9."

"We don't get real help to get a job," he said about immigrants.

"We need more help to overcome all the problems we have."

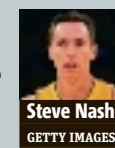
MIKE DONACHIE/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

Follow Mike Donachie on Twitter @Mike_Donachie

Getting their start elsewhere

Plenty of immigrants come to Canada and wind up being household names. You may be surprised at how many well-known Canucks didn't actually get a start in the True North strong and free. Here's a look:

Steve Nash is considered the best NBA player ever to spend most of his life in Canada.



Currently a member of the Los Angeles Lakers, he was named the NBA's most valuable player in both 2006 and 2007. He grew up in Victoria, B.C. He was born in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Ernie Coombs was a children's entertainer who starred in the Canadian television series, Mr. Dressup. He became a Canadian citizen in 1994.



He and his family lived in Pickering, Ont. He was born in Lewiston, Maine.

Brendan Fraser, son of Canadian parents, is a movie and stage actor who portrayed Rick O'Connell in the three-part Mummy series. He is also known for other comedic and fantasy-film leading roles in major Hollywood movies. He was born in Indianapolis, Ind.



METRO

THE STORY OF US: IMMIGRATION IN CANADA, TOLD IN FIVE PARTS

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Change and effect

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What Canada wants vs. what it gets

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Day 3

Where we come from, where we go

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Day 4

Happy times, hard times

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Day 5

The future and beyond

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Online

Live the stories of three immigrants in our five-part video series at metronews.ca



Half a million in Canada

Toyota recalls 6.4M vehicles

Toyota Motor Corp. is recalling 6.39 million vehicles globally, including more than half a million in Canada, for a variety of problems spanning nearly 30 models in Japan, North America, Europe and other places. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Serving up McJobs

McDonald's Canada supersedes hiring of young people

McDonald's Canada and its franchisees are set to hire more than 6,000 young people at a one-day event on Thursday at participating restaurants across the country. McDonald's says it's

aiming to hire the largest number of young people it has ever attempted in one day in Canada.

The fast food chain notes that youth unemployment rates are almost double the national average of 6.9 per cent in March.

However, it also says 75 per cent of McDonald Canada employees are between the ages of 15 and 24.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More focus on the self

Twitter redesigns for the Selfie Age

As Twitter looks to broaden its appeal beyond its 241 million users, the company is introducing a redesign of profile pages that includes bigger photos, more user controls and a distinct resemblance to Facebook.

"Moment by moment,

your Twitter profile shows the world who you are," the company wrote in a blog post Tuesday. "Starting today, it will be even easier (and, we think, more fun) to express yourself through a new and improved Web profile."

As part of changes coming in the next few weeks, users who access Twitter via the Web will notice larger photos on their profile pages.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. federal regulators

Trains with crude oil should have 2-person crews

Responding to a series of fiery train derailments, federal regulators in the U.S. said they will propose trains transporting crude oil have at least two-person crews.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Heartbleed' bug causes major heartburn for CRA

Canada Revenue Agency. If you haven't filed your taxes, you won't be able to until at least the weekend due to computer bug

With tax-return season in full swing, the Canada Revenue Agency suddenly locked down its online filing services on Wednesday, fearful of a new vulnerability in software used by much of the world to safeguard secure websites on the Internet.

All of the federal government's online systems were under review after word of the so-called "Heartbleed" computer bug prompted the tax agency to pull the plug on its electronic services as a precaution.

"As a preventative measure, the CRA has temporarily shut down public access to our online services to safeguard the integrity of the information we hold," the agency said in a statement.

The shutdown came after the Canadian Cyber Incident Response Centre (CCIRC) issued a warning to system administrators about the coding flaw. It recommended that system operators unable to plug in an immediate fix get off the grid.

Other federal systems were also being assessed for their vulnerability to the threat, said Antoine Ouellon, a spokesperson for Shared Services Canada, the federal agency that oversees the government's IT infrastructure.

"Shared Services Canada is working with departments and Public Safety Canada to assess all IT systems to identify the extent of the problem and to apply solutions, including implementing patches, as required," Ouellon said in a statement.

It was not immediately clear Wednesday whether any other online government would have to be taken off-line.

The Canada Revenue Agency services that were affected by Wednesday's outage included the electronic tax-filing systems Efile and Netfile.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Canada Revenue Agency headquarters in Ottawa is shown on Friday. The 'Heartbleed' bug forced the tax agency on Wednesday to suspend its online filing services. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heart-stopping oversight

Bug went undetected for two years

A confounding computer bug called "Heartbleed" is causing major security headaches across the Internet as websites scramble to fix the problem and web surfers wonder whether they should change their passwords to prevent theft of their email accounts, credit card numbers and other sensitive information.

The breakdown revealed this week affects a widely used encryption technology that is supposed to protect online accounts for a variety of online communications and electronic commerce.

Security researchers who uncovered the threat are particularly worried about the lapse because it went undetected for more than two years. They fear the possibility that computer hackers may have been secretly exploiting the problem before its discovery. It's also possible that no one took advantage of the flaw before its existence was announced late Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Around the world in 20 days via solar plane



Visitors walk under the new experimental aircraft Solar Impulse 2 at an event in Payerne, Switzerland, on Wednesday. LAURENT GILLIERON/KEYSTONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Swiss team planning to complete the first round-the-world solar flight next year unveiled a new version of their unique aircraft Wednesday, which they say could remain in the air indefinitely.

Pilots Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg said the Solar Impulse 2 improves upon the single-seater prototype that first took flight five years ago, and which has since demonstrated that a solar-powered plane can fly through the night, between two continents and across the

United States.

The updated plane presented to the world at the Payerne Air Force Base in Switzerland has better batteries for storing energy soaked up from the sun by the 7,200 solar cells that cover its massive wings.

At 236 feet, its wingspan is eight meters longer than the first prototype — longer even than the wings of a Boeing 747 jumbo jet — but still only weighs 2.54 tons, about as much as a large car.

The materials in the up-

dated plane are also lighter than before, it has more efficient electric motors, and a "good business class seat," Borschberg said.

That's important, because while the journey will be broken up into several stages, the aircraft's slow speed means it will have to stay in the air for several days in a row during the long trans-oceanic legs.

Borschberg said the trip next year would take about 20 flying days, spread over several months. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Market Minute

↑ **DOLLAR**
91.98¢ (+0.42¢)

↑ **TSX**
14,435.58 (+63.13)

↑ **OIL**
\$103.60 US (+\$1.04)

↓ **GOLD**
\$1,305.90 US (-\$3.20)

Natural gas: \$4.56 US (+\$0.03)
Dow Jones: 16,437.18 (+181.04)

GIVE UP YOUR SUMMER JOB SEARCH

Now that summer break has arrived for you university and college students, it's time to decide what your dream job is, because you'll be thinking about it a lot while you rot in some summer-job cesspool.

That's probably hard to hear after eight difficult months of alcoholism and plagiarism, but it's the truth, as cold and hard as the nickels you'll be stealing from the tip jar.

One of the only guaranteed jobs out there this time of year is writing tips for people looking for summer jobs (ka-ching!), and in my experience most articles like this one are far too optimistic, even naive.

They're all about networking and gump-tion and stick-to-it-iveness (formerly known as perseverance). Just put yourself out there and good things will happen, the advice goes. Lies, I say.

It harkens back to my parents' youth in New Brunswick, where job seekers simply grabbed the "Help Wanted" sign in the window and handed it to the boss, who was so impressed



HE SAYS

John Mazerolle

metronews.ca

by an N.B.er with basic literacy skills and opposable thumbs that the new hires were well on their way to becoming Senior Vice-President of "Help Wanted" Sign Distribution. Or so I've been told.

But when I was playing this game 15 years ago, it was pretty painful. Mostly it involved looking at recipe cards tacked to a corkboard at a youth employment centre and praying that "pay negotiable" meant either six figures or seven figures.

I'm ignorant of today's job market — no doubt it involves e-recipe cards robo-tacked to a World Wide Corkboard — but since the media has dubbed today's youth demographic "generation screwed" I'm going to assume

things aren't super.

From what I've heard, the modern job seeker requires three call-back interviews, including one in front of a board of directors, just to apprentice for the guy who fetches the coffee, and even then it's an unpaid internship until you're 34.

It's pretty much hopeless. But I'm legally obligated to provide a few tips, so:

- It's not what you do, it's who you do.
- Crack the so-called hidden job market by surfing to the Canada Job Bank and typing up up down down left right left right B A.
- BuzzFeed's Which Career Should You REALLY Have? is pretty much can't-miss.

But the biggest advice I would give anyone looking for a summer job is: Avoid it if you can.

I'm not even kidding. If you can avoid it at all — either because you're spoiled or you're cheap — then do it. Working in between school years makes the whole summer seem like life's longest Sunday: melancholy and muted even when it's nice out.

I know that supposedly makes me irresponsible then and now, but, trust me, you will not look back and say, "I wish I'd joined the workforce sooner."

Instead, inform your friends that you're looking to travel or party or vegetate and that they should join you. "Help wanted," in other words.

ZOOM

It's rather en-lightning



COURTESY CRAIG ECCLES/SOLENT NEWS & PHOTO

Electrical storms get oohs and ahhs

A thrill-seeking storm chaser captured the precise moment these giant lightning bolts lit up dark skies in a series of incredible storms.

Craig Eccles, a photographer from Perth, Western Australia, travels up to 500 kilometres in anticipation of a powerful storm — all for the sake of capturing that ferocious majesty on camera.

METRO

Photog's viewpoint

"I have seen lightning bolts stretch for miles across the sky. For me, it's not all about the lightning bolt — sometimes it's about being in pitch black and in a split second, it appears as day."

Craig Eccles, photographer from Perth, Western Australia

How and when?

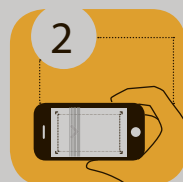
- Electrical potential builds up inside clouds, between water droplets with either a positive and negative charge. This potential is discharged in the form of lightning
- The frequency of flashes worldwide is about 50 times per second (that's 4.3 million times a day).

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MetroTube

One cat not a fan



ANDREW
FIFIELD
metronews.ca

Much of the feisty behaviour we find so amusing about cats can be attributed to their displeasure for treading on their turf or ignoring their critically important needs.

"You think you can ignore my hunger at 5 a.m.? My raking at this blanket begs to differ."

This cat goes from fuzzy guitar groupie to feisty heckler based on a similar complaint. "Listen, Duane Allman. I'm in charge of licks around here."

Luckily, lame puns and their accompanying groans are for humans only. Or I'd be in a lot of trouble with my cat today.



FLICKR

Director casts a light on the darkness of the past

Corpus. New Holocaust-based play takes present and past narratives to explore a dark part of human history



BACKSTAGE PASS
Jen Traplin
ottawa@metronews.ca

Ever since she was a little girl, local theatre artist Bronwyn Steinberg has been fascinated with one of the darkest moments in human history — the Holocaust.

"I went through a period when I was about 10 or 11, when I first started to learn about the holocaust, where I became obsessed," she admits.

Though Steinberg has Jewish heritage, she wasn't raised Jewish. But her life changed forever when she learned that during the Holocaust, all it took for an individual to be defined as Jewish was having one Jewish grandparent.

"That was a hugely profound thing to realize at that age so, at that point, I decided to pursue a Jewish identity and I asked my parents to put me in Hebrew school, I had a bat mitzvah and I've considered myself Jewish ever since then."

Last year, when she came across the script for *Corpus*, an award-winning play about a young genocide scholar, Steinberg knew she had to bring it to the stage.

Corpus is set simulta-

neously in contemporary Toronto and 1944 Auschwitz and centres around Megan, a genocide scholar doing her PhD. She comes across a story about a relationship between the wife of a Nazi officer and a Polish-Jewish prisoner in Auschwitz and tries to investigate the truth of it all.

The play was penned by Ottawa-based playwright Darrah Teitel. Steinberg's production, Teitel says, marks the world premiere of her play, giving her the chance to finally see her words come to life.

"I've grown accustomed to *Corpus* on the page. This production is so exciting because I am able to discover the tangible and visual dimensions of it. This play is extremely meaningful to me, but I'm not just trying to tell a historical story. I am trying to question the stories we tell from history."

Steinberg admits the Holocaust is a topic that can be off-putting because it is so awful, but says *Corpus* approaches the subject with a contemporary perspective.

"What we're actually looking at is how the dark eras in history shape where we are now. It's not necessarily about the Holocaust, but more about who we are now and how we look at these things."

Details

Corpus opens May 1 at Arts Court Theatre. Tickets are \$15-\$25. For more info, go to counterpointplayers.com



Bronwyn Steinberg is directing and producing the world premiere of *Corpus*. COURTESY ANDREW ALEXANDER

2 SCENE

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Mad Men tells no tales for last time

Hush-hush final season.

Show's creator muses on the strangeness of no more secrets

Chat with Matthew Weiner these days and you feel the added depth of his *Mad Men* immersion.

When its bifurcated final season begins Sunday at 10 p.m. EDT on AMC (with seven episodes, to be followed by seven more next year), the second of those final hours will be shooting, while the fifth of seven final scripts will be taking shape on the page.

And then?

The looming end has taken root in the *Mad Men* conversation among fans, even as they mark time waiting for the 14 new installments. Meanwhile, Weiner, as the auteur of this landmark drama series, voices both resolve and wonderment at his task of bringing *Mad Men* in for a landing.

His goal, he says, is not to wallop the audience with a grand parting shot, but something more gently profound: "To leave the characters in a place where they're going to be in viewers' imaginations forever."

Weiner has said many



Creator Matthew Weiner talks with actress Jessica Pare on the set of *Mad Men*. JAMIE TRUEBLOOD/AMC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

times he hit upon some semblance of that "fitting end" several years ago.

And yet: Pulling the plug on a TV series goes against every instinct of the person in charge, he says — the person whose primary duty is to keep the show alive and well, week after week.

Even for a series veteran like Weiner (who was a writer-

producer of *The Sopranos* as well as the sitcom *Becker*), his mission to end *Mad Men* is "a totally antithetical thing, an exercise that is outside my realm of experience."

Last season's fade-out found Don Draper (series star Jon Hamm) who, at the series' start was fiercely guarded about his past, coming clean to his three kids: Don stood with them outside the former whorehouse where he, born Dick Whitman, was raised as an orphan.

Now, how does the new season pick up the action?

As usual, Weiner made sure the preview he shared

with TV critics was accompanied by a laundry list of details not to be divulged: Things like when it takes place and what's going on with Don's work and private life.

What, then, can be shared? That the episode, written by Weiner, is richly satisfying. That the cast remains terrific. That the series seems headed confidently down its home stretch.

Pretty much the rest is meant to stay hush-hush.

But secrecy is not simply an obsession for Weiner. It's a marketing strategy that serves *Mad Men* well.

"This was a decision I made

Where the story left off

Viewers will remember that at the close of last season, Don was left in disarray. He had been sidelined by his ad agency after suffering a meltdown at a client meeting. His loving wife Megan walked out on him after one too many broken promises.

- **The 1960s have been hard on Don.** A man who years before assumed another man's identity, he has shaped his sense of self, and his career, from cultural models that

seem to grow increasingly outdated as the '60s wear on. Don is on a downward spiral as he hits middle age, fast becoming an old fogey in a youth-obsessed era. Or so it may have seemed to some viewers.

- **Weiner doesn't see him that way.**

- **"The world is changing.** That was the original intention of the show. And change makes everybody feel out of place."

at the show's pilot stage," he says. He pointed to January Jones, who plays Don's ex and at the show's inception was still his wife. "She was not part of any of the press material for the first season, because I didn't want anyone who watched the pilot to know until its final moments that Don was married."

Weiner laughs, recalling the first table read for this obscure new series on an also-ran network as he demanded confidentiality from his cast.

"Everybody looked at me like we'd be lucky if spoilers were a problem for this show. 'They were thinking, 'You really want us to keep things a secret?'"

"Not all entertainment has to be this way," Weiner acknowledges, "but I thought that the surprise of our storytelling would be a smart mar-

keting decision. Luckily, AMC agreed, right from the beginning." And as Weiner hoped, it helped get the show noticed — and still does.

Now the end is in sight. How to pull it off in a way that does justice to the series and its fans? And to viewers who have yet to discover it, and won't until all the cats are out of the bag?

"If *Mad Men* continues to be watched after its ending airs, whoever approaches it will know how it ends," Weiner muses almost wistfully. "However we end the show, there won't be any more secrets. That's kind of weird." He means to leave a show behind that will satisfy late-comers, too.

But that's all ahead.

"Before then," he declares, "we've got a lot of ground to cover." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Goal going into the final season

"To leave the characters in a place where they're going to be in viewers' imaginations forever."

Mad Men creator Matthew Weiner



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Miriam Toews

writersfestival.org



Mark Rendall takes the helm of his acting career



Mark Rendall, right, stars in *Algonquin*, which opens in Toronto on Friday. CONTRIBUTED

Algonquin.

Toronto actor took some time away from the industry to reflect on his career choices



IN
FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Actor Mark Rendall prepared for his new film by not preparing.

At least not in the traditional sense.

He co-stars in *Algonquin* with Nicholas Campbell — who Rendall calls “a legend” — in a story about estranged fathers, new-found brothers and a young man who discovers what makes family truly important.

Rendall, who has been acting in films like *Childstar* and TV shows such as *Hannibal* since the age of 10, calls the new movie “the first dramatic lead I have done at a more mature point in my life.”

More mature physically, but also in life experience.

“I took two years off from acting to go to school and find out what I really wanted,” says the 25-year-old.

“I wanted to explore other things because I had been acting for so long. *Algonquin* is the first performance I did coming back onto it.

“I did so much in those two years that had I continued acting I wouldn’t have experienced.

“I feel a good actor is someone who has lived and isn’t pretending to emote or show an experience on screen, but is actually feeling it.

“Someone who has been there. I needed those experiences and time away to grow in ways that I feel acting would have sheltered me from.”

He continued leading a creative life, just one away from the camera.

“When I wasn’t acting, I was taking instrument building classes.

“That is a real passion of mine. I really respect Daniel Day Lewis for learning how to become a cobbler.

“I think that is beautiful, because one thing you

Quoted

“I feel a good actor is someone who has lived and isn’t pretending to emote or show an experience on screen, but is actually feeling it”

Mark Rendall on the art of acting

miss when acting is working with your hands or doing really organic artistic endeavours that you’re in control of.

“In the end, with instrument making I’m the one editing, directing, buying the material and producing the end result. It’s an individual and personal process — more so than acting, I think.

“Acting is not a one-man operation. It’s a team, it’s like being part of a family for a while with lots of people working to make something.

“There is always a director and a writer and you’re always kind of portraying someone else’s dream, but to actually be in control of your own dream is amazing.”



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Trailer Park Boys are still living the dream

Don't Legalize It.

Ricky, Julian and Bubbles are back and drunker than ever

LIZ BROWN

liz.brown@metronews.ca

As my photographer and I file into a suite at Toronto's Grand Hotel, we're hit with the stench of stale cigarettes and sweat-out liquor.

Bubbles horks a snot rocket before offering to shake hands with us. Ricky and Julian follow suit — sans loogie — and the trio settle into the overstuffed microsuede couch to talk about their upcoming movie, *Don't Legalize It*, the third feature film for the Trailer Park Boys.

Three movies and an enduring TV series (a new 10-episode season will debut on Netflix later this year) isn't too shabby an accomplishment for the trio from Dartmouth's Sunnyside Trailer Park. But the boys don't let the success get to their heads. They're still living hard

and while they were here for the Toronto premiere of *Don't Legalize It*, they made the most of their time in the big city.

"It's fantastic," Bubbles says when asked how he's liking Toronto.

"We like it," groans Julian behind a pair of dark aviators. "We were up late last night."

How late?

"Oh, about 7:30 a.m.," says Bubbles.

It's now noon and the sun is beating into the hotel room.

But Bubbles insists they were only drinking cherry colas. I should've been a better journalist and clarified — though I'm pretty sure he meant the type of colas made of spiced rum and amaretto.

Ricky has been silent so far, slouching on the far end of the couch, hiding behind a pair of sunglasses and looking slightly sweaty. But we want to hear from him — he's the real star of this film, after all, as he treks to Ottawa in a camper van to make an inspired speech about why it's a mistake to legalize dope.

He looks a little ashen but tries his best to articulate his



Trailer Park Boys 3: *Don't Legalize It*, opens in theatres next Friday, April 18. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

arguments. "I think if they're going to legalize it, they should at least let the people who are growing and selling it like me

keep doing their job," he says.

"There's enough unemployment. If they're going to legalize it, they should be doing it

the right way; it shouldn't just be the government just taking all the money. Their dope is probably going to suck, you

Quoted

"Their dope is probably going to suck, you might not be able to get honey oil or hash any more, so I don't know if it's a good thing."

Ricky on why we shouldn't legalize pot

might not be able to get honey oil or hash any more, so I don't know if it's a good thing."

I think that's the best I'm going to get out of these still-drunk boys, so I wrap the interview.

But later that night, at the after-party, after the premiere of the film and a few downed cocktails, I see Ricky. I flip him the bird and tell him he has some off to f—k. "That was a terrible interview," I tell him. "Maybe the worst ever."

"What do you want from me? I was hungover as f—k?" he shoots back.

Fair enough.

As if to make amends, he invites me to do a shot. I oblige. Even after a decade, life is still good as a Trailer Park Boy.

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Tina Fey and Amy Poehler. ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Wish granted: Tina & Amy to star in sister comedy

How is it that we can put a man on the moon, but Amy Poehler and Tina Fey have only starred in one film together? And that film was Baby Mama? (Mean Girls doesn't count. They had supporting roles in that.) Luckily, things are about to change. According to the Hollywood Reporter, the stars of 30 Rock and Parks and Recreation will co-star in *The Nest*, a dark period thriller. Just kidding, it's a

comedy, obviously. *The Nest* is about adult sisters (they're playing sisters!) who find out that their parents are selling their childhood home, so they decide to throw one last big party there. In the process, they learn to mature. *The Nest* will be directed by Jay Roach, who also directed *Pitch Perfect*. It's written by Paula Pell, a former Saturday Night Live writer who also played Pete's wife on 30 Rock.

After 27 years, Tom Ford and his partner have fashionably late nuptials

Fashion icon Tom Ford is officially off the market, as he and his partner of 27 years, former *Vogue* Hommes International editor Richard Buckley, recently tied the knot in a very quiet ceremony, according to *Vogue*. Ford let the news slip casually while speaking at the Regent Street Apple Store opening in London earlier this week. "We are now married, which is nice," Ford said. "I know that was just made legal in the



Tom Ford

U.K., which is great. We were married in the States."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Gwynnie might need practice at conscious uncoupling

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News in New York

Moses Martin, the son of Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin, turned eight on Tuesday, and Gwyneth posted this sweet pic on Twitter for his birthday. Yeah, happy birthday, Moses — now run and play, because we need to talk to your mom about something.

Check out her hand in the photo. Despite her much publicized "conscious un-

coupling" from Chris Martin, it appears that Gwyneth is still wearing her wedding ring. That's assuming this is a current photo, of course, which seems likely — Moses' "Aw, Mom" expression certainly looks like an eight-year-old boy to me.

So what do you think is the deal with the ring? I'd say maybe she's not ready to remove it, but I don't think Gwyneth Paltrow has ever shown that kind of emotional weakness in her life. And I say that with tremendous and earnest respect. She's an oil-pulling, hydrangea-stroking pillar of steel. No, the ring must be a deliberate step in her conscious uncoupling. Unless her conscious uncoupling has gone so well that she's already remarried to someone else.



Kate Mulgrew

Big Red in a new film that makes some big claims

Say it ain't so, Captain Janeway. Kate Mulgrew, who currently stars as Big Red on *Orange Is the New Black*, is part of a new movie about geocentrism — the belief that the sun orbits the Earth. Mulgrew, who also spent seven years playing a starship captain on *Star Trek: Voyager*, narrates *The Principle* by ultra-conservative Robert Sunigenis, who maintains the blog *Galileo Was Wrong*.

So is Mulgrew a devotee of Sunigenis' extremely bogus theory? Unclear. She does say that "everything we think we know about our universe is wrong" in the trailer, though apparently not everyone who was in that trailer chose to be there. On second thought, let's hope she really does buy into geocentrism, because that would probably break new ground in the realm of weird celebrity beliefs.

Twitter



@TheRock

Alright.. 3 hrs sleep, but kickin' jet lag's ass. Its time to work.. Good morning from lovely London.



@ladygaga

just basically ate all the birthday cake I was supposed to eat last week but had shows so I dieted it was so good. it was yummy yums



@WhitneyCummings

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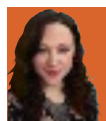
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3 LIFE

Spring clean your style

Won't you let them live?! In the spirit of reducing, reusing and recycling, we look at three ways to deal with your done-for duds this spring without tossing them in the trash



ELIZABETH
BEDDALL
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Whether you've stuck to your New Year's resolutions or not, the sun is coming out and revealing that you are a different person than you were back when the halls were being decked.

Spring is almost here and it's time to reassess that wardrobe. But what do you do with those piles of threads that no longer thrill you? Let us give you a few fashionable tips for figuring that out.

Sell 'em

Sites such as Craigslist, Kijiji and eBay Canada have made it easy for regular folks to become retail mavericks. If you've got a few pieces that you picked out in a fit of passion, but never quite figured out how to flaunt, selling them to a more suitable style hunter might be the way to go.

But if you've never opened up shop on a web-based platform, it may be difficult to know how to get visitors to even give your garments a second look.



Perfectly distressed denim jeans, how I've loved you so, but it's time to let you go. ISTOCK

London-based luxury gown designer Farishta Zarify, who won the eBay Canada 2013 Entrepreneur of the Year award for her successful online store, says it's all about the visuals.

"It's online shopping, so you're taking away the experience of seeing the item in person," says Zarify, who recommends taking plenty of photographs of each garment in proper lighting and with a simple background.

"Also make sure to list all the defining characteristics like brand name, size and measurements so the customer knows exactly what they're going to get."

Donate 'em

There's arguably no bet-

ter way to feel good about saying goodbye to your garments than by giving them away to a great cause.

There are plenty of organizations across Canada that will accept your gently used clothing, including The Salvation Army and Clothesline for the Canadian Diabetes Association.

And what if spring has brought with it a brand new job and you no longer need that blazer and those flashy flats?

Turn your charitable sights to Dress for Success, a worldwide organization with locations across Canada, which helps to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing them with pro-

fessional attire received via drop-off donation.

"In the process of picking out an outfit and having a conversation with a volunteer stylist, our clients are transformed," says executive director of Dress for Success's Toronto chapter, Paige Souter.

"They start to believe that the next chapter in their lives will be better than the part that they're leaving."

And if you've had a pile accumulating in your closet for ages but lack the means to lug it to your local donation box, you can pay a quick visit to donation-town.org, an online directory of charities that offer donation pick-up service.

Rework 'em

Welcome to the generation of DIY, where every item can be manipulated into something even more magnificent. So don't give up on that garment – it's got life in it yet! To prove this to you, we asked Alana Kumar, the Victoria, B.C.-based creator of DIY blog dreamcreate.ca, to suggest four ways to breathe new life into your wardrobe:

- Use your scissors! Sometimes clothes have unnecessary ruffles, bows, etc. Say a prayer to the DIY gods and start having fun. Cutting ruffles can transform a girly top or dress into a much more classic silhouette, and give your piece a second chance.
- Turn a dress into a skirt. Take a maxi dress and simply tuck the top under. Now you have a new maxi skirt that you can pair with any top.
- For pieces with a few layers like a dress, try removing the top layer with a pair of scissors, sometimes the "shell" of the dress is more beautiful and simple than the original.
- For pieces with a few layers like a dress, try removing the top layer with a pair of scissors, sometimes the "shell" of the dress is more beautiful and simple than the original.

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Amanda Assing

Age: 32

Occupation: EA at Juniper Park and Open Studio contributor

What she's wearing:

"This black gem of a coat I found in this little vintage store in New York. I died. It's boiled wool and collarless. Reminded me of a collarless Chanel coat and I literally wear this everyday. These pants strangely are from the Gap — the loose fit is perfect for running around on the job. Club Monaco top is classic and translates in any country. Alpaca wool scarf is a find from Kensington market and it's ridiculously warm."

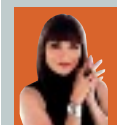
Her inspiration:

Mash-up of Emmanuelle Alt + loose patterns prints.

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Quintessential Thai flavours compliment veg

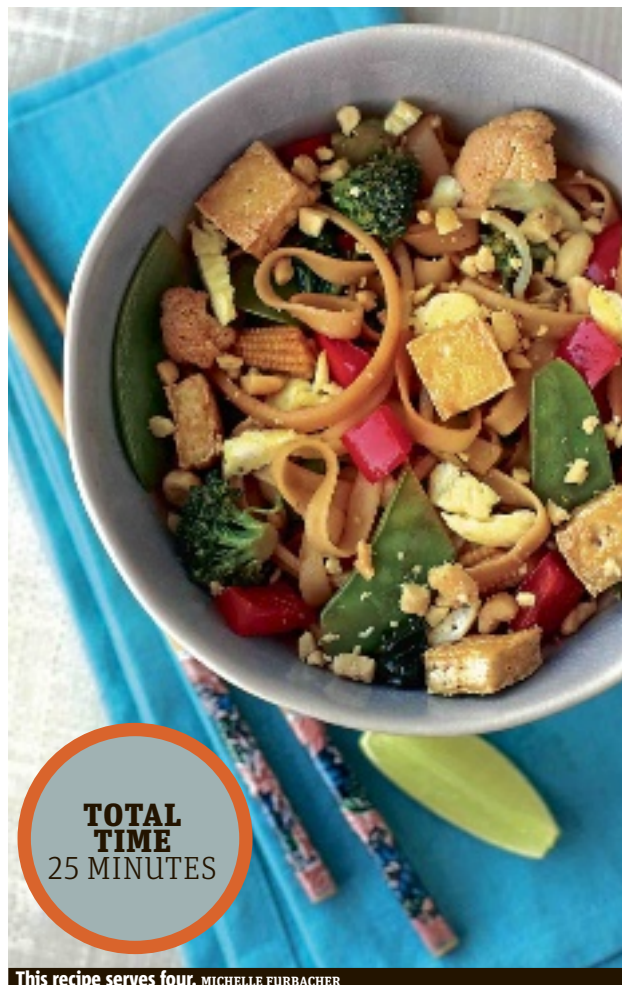
Vegetable Pad Thai.

Everyone's favourite street dish from Thailand goes vegetarian

"(Pad Thai) is a traditional national dish served all over Thailand. It's sweet and spicy with a hint of tartness thanks to the lime, and features a wide variety of vegetables," writes Linda Woolven in The All-New Vegetarian Passport.

1. Cook the noodles according to the package instructions.

2. In a large frying pan, heat the oil. Add the tofu and cook, stirring, for about 7 minutes, or until slightly browned. Add the egg (if using) and cook, stirring, for about 2 minutes. Add the bok choy, bell pepper, broccoli and cauliflower and cook, stirring, for 3 to 4 minutes. Add the



TOTAL TIME
25 MINUTES

This recipe serves four. MICHELLE FURBACHER

mung bean sprouts, snow peas, baby corn, bamboo shoots, soy sauce, rice vinegar and chili flakes and cook, stirring, for 3 to 4 minutes. Add the noodles and peanuts and heat through. Serve with lime wedges to garnish.

FROM THE ALL-NEW VEGETARIAN PASS-

FLASH FOOD



From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

PORT BY LINDA WOOLVEN (WHITECAP, 2013)

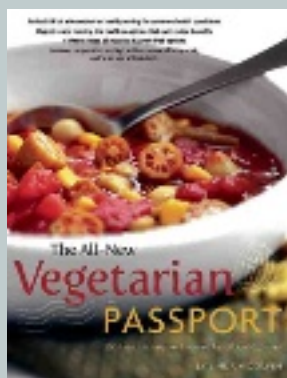
Ingredients

- 6 oz (175 g) wide brown-rice Thai noodles
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) first cold pressed extra virgin olive oil
- 2 oz (60 g) extra-firm tofu, cubed
- 1 egg, beaten (optional; omit for diabetes, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis and vegan diet)
- 2 baby bok choy, chopped
- 1 medium-size red bell pepper, diced (omit for rheumatoid arthritis)
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) broccoli

- florets
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) cauliflower florets
- 1 cup (250 ml) mung bean sprouts
- Handful each of snow peas, canned baby corn, drained and rinsed; canned bamboo shoots, drained and rinsed
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) soy sauce
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) rice vinegar
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) chili flakes
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) crushed unsalted peanuts
- lime wedges

Cookbook of the Week

Around the world



Discover the best vegetarian delicacies from all over the world without leaving your kitchen. In The All-New Vegetarian Passport, Linda Woolven exposes readers to international flavours that also help to create a healthy new relationship between your body and your plate. The book boasts 350 of Woolven's favourite recipes and is split into sections that include North Africa and The Middle East, The Mediterranean, Europe, India, Asia, Latin America and The Caribbean, North America and more. **METRO**

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Spruce up your favourite outdoor room now, then relax in it all summer long. CONTRIBUTED

All hands on deck

Get on board. Paul Lafrance has timely tips to get outdoor space shipshape for summer

The days are finally getting warmer and it's almost time to enjoy our backyards again. But after a long, rough winter what used to be an outdoor oasis may be in shambles. Luckily, deck guru Paul Lafrance has some tips and tricks for easy weekend makeovers that will keep your outdoor space beautiful, inviting, and stress-free for the summer ahead.

Stain the deck

Guaranteed this winter had snow and ice accumulating on your deck. If you don't have composite decking, you need to avoid those water stains on the wood by sanding and staining it. Do this as soon as the weather hits 10 degrees so that you are doing the work when it's still a bit chilly outside instead of on a beautiful day when you'd rather be on the deck relaxing.

Consider composite

If the structure of your deck is sound and the framework

is lasting, then the best possible thing you can do for your sanity and the resale value of your home is to replace the deck boards with composite decking. This is easily a weekend project and will save you hours of maintenance in the future when you simply need to wash it clean instead of staining it.

Rethink your railings

To add more of a design flair to your deck, consider other options outside of the traditional wooden railings. Change them to glass for an upgraded view, or choose colours like black, white, or bronze to better suit your taste. You can even add railings with mirrors for a more interesting look.

Light it up

I cannot stress enough how important lighting is to design, and how much it can transform an outdoor space. You don't need to be an electrician to incorporate LED lights with your deck, or to add lights that will help you see better and boost the ambience at night.

Invest in furnishings

Deck furniture has been completely revolutionized

Decked Out

Watch Paul Lafrance in all-new seasons of *Decked Out* and *Disaster Decks*, Tuesdays beginning at 9 p.m. ET/PT on HGTV Canada.

from the past — there are outdoor furnishings now that are being mistaken for living room furniture. You can make over your whole space with some chairs and tables, or even create the effect of a room by adding an umbrella to a dining or living space outdoors.

Add privacy screens

Privacy screens are a great way to not only add privacy to your backyard space, but to also create a focal point and a creative "wow" for guests. Instead of simply copying the fencing that you have and making a screen out of it, consider incorporating something more decorative that suits your design tastes. You can choose anything from faux stone to something with a hanging water feature. If you can see it from inside it makes the outdoor space even more inviting.

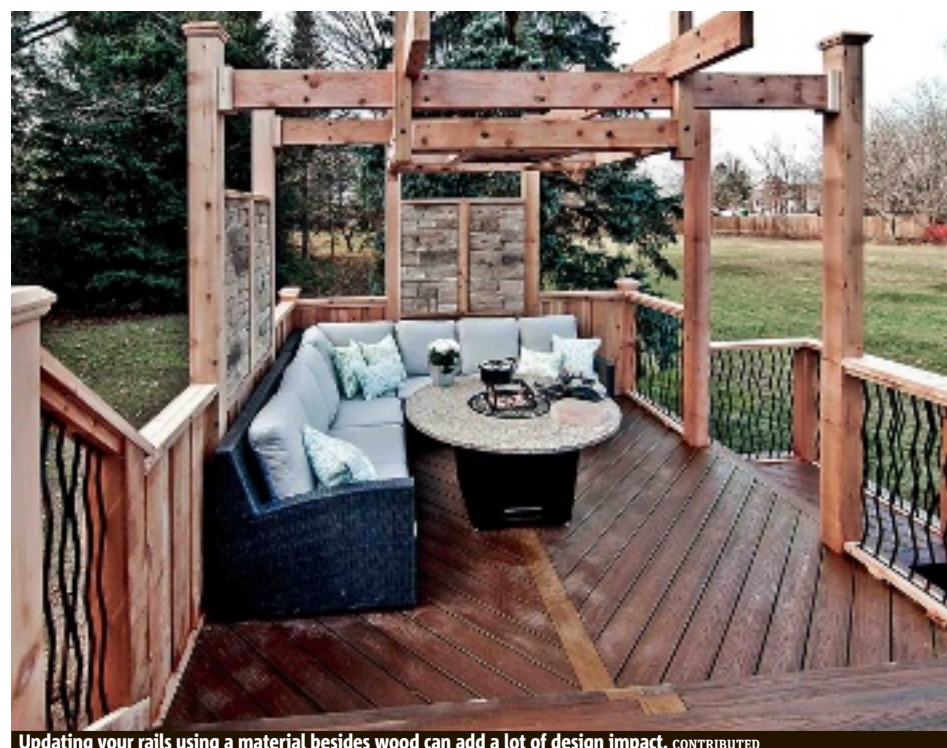
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Updating your rails using a material besides wood can add a lot of design impact. CONTRIBUTED



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Green thumb or no, these are good to grow

Indoor decor and more. Plants pretty enough to eat or sturdy enough to neglect

Homeowners who are wary of growing plants indoors, especially if they travel often or are prone to forgetting to water, might want to consider a variety of low-maintenance

plants that breathe life and design into a room.

"I've actually been starting to put plants into all of my projects," says Kyla Bidgood, an interior designer. "They just bring a whole other level of life and cosiness to a space."

The Victoria-based Bidgood says there are easy ways to bring plants into a space, even for those without a green thumb.

Living on air

"A great way to add some greenery to a space that is really low maintenance is air plants," she says.

Tillandsia, also known as air plants, are native to the forests, mountains and deserts of Central and South America, the southern United States and the West Indies. They don't need soil because water and nutrients are ab-

sorbed through the leaves, and their roots serve only as an anchor.

"They are awesome, and you can put them in everything," says Bidgood. "There are lamps where you can put something in the base of the lamp, and you can pop an air plant in there."

High and low

Combining plants of various

heights and kinds is a great way to create dimension and design in a room.

In her living room, Bidgood combined a tall blood orange tree with a smaller rubber tree to create a visually interesting vignette.

Citrus appeal

"If you have the natural light and have a green thumb, citrus plants are great," she says. "They produce beautiful fruit you can actually eat, but they do need more water and light."

Bringing edible plants indoors, like citrus trees, not only adds colour and life to a room, but it also allows homeowners to have a taste of spring in their home year round.

Edible flowers

Judy Kenzie, owner of Strathcona 1890 Urban Seed Collections, grows her garden in containers around her yard and indoors.

"This year, I tried to grow edible flowers inside," she says. "I wanted to try it and germinate, and grow them inside."

According to Kenzie, growing edible plants inside often requires some experimentation, and a willingness to see

the plants homeowners may already have as food.

"What a lot of people don't realize are things like pansies that you can buy as indoor potted plants are edible flowers," she says. "You could have those flowers on your window sill and they would be beautiful, and you can throw them in your salad."

Pea plants are another option for injecting pops of colour into your kitchen, while also being great to add to salads and sandwiches.

Even though a homeowner would have to pollinate the plant to get peas, Kenzie explains, the rest of the plant is edible from the flowers to the leaves.

Greens year-round

A piece of equipment Kenzie hopes will become a fixture in every kitchen is a grow light, which allows homeowners to grow lettuces and salad greens year-round.

Grow lights are commonly used by gardeners to help start seeds indoors in the spring, but Kenzie says homeowners could use them to nurture greens to supply their household, and even their neighbours, throughout the cold winter months.

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Interior designer Kyla Bidgood includes foliage in her projects, including air plants, to bring the outside inside and create unique sculptural elements.

JEN STEELE, HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

metro

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Market roundup

Metro takes a cross-Canada trip to find out how far \$300,000 to \$350,000 will go in today's housing market.

COMPILED BY GEORDON OMAND



Calgary

This cowtown condo, deep in Calgary's south end, is sure to make any homeowner proud. Built by award-winning Homes by Avi, it offers 1,184 square feet of living space, complete with espresso cabinets and an island in the kitchen. A double garage, fenced backyard and private concrete patio complete this stylish south-end home. Asking price is \$344,000.

LISTING: RE/MAX HOUSE OF REAL ESTATE



Halifax

Comfort and convenience combine in this well cared for and tastefully updated three-bedroom home. Besides 1,144 square feet of space, good insulation and new windows make for a high EnerGuide rating. The property is located close to the shops and restaurants of nearby Hydrostone Market. Asking price is \$348,900. A professional paint job is promised prior to closing.

LISTING: KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY



Regina

This family-friendly home includes four bedrooms and four washrooms, as well as a generous sized lawn and an oversized single-vehicle, attached garage. Asking price is \$339,900. The square footage comes in at slightly more than 1,400 square feet. Recent renovations involved an additional two-piece washroom and allowing for direct backyard access on the main level. The yard includes an outdoor skating rink and a hot tub, both negotiable.

LISTING: ROYAL LEPAGE REGINA REALTY



Ottawa

This three-storey, award-winning townhouse is all ready for a homeowner. Asking price is \$314,500. There are two regular bedrooms on the third floor, as well as a four-piece, ensuite washroom off a third master bedroom, also on the third floor. The second level houses a large chef's kitchen with dining and living room areas, while a mud room and family room are located on the first floor.

LISTING: EXIT REALTY MATRIX



Vancouver

This spacious one-bedroom, one-washroom condominium is a stone's throw away from Jericho Beach, making it a perfect location for pet lovers. The property includes stainless steel appliances, stone counters and dark hardwood floors, as well as a 16-foot south-facing patio. Nearby shopping and an enormous master bedroom make this 656-square-foot, \$342,500 unit a steal of a deal.

LISTING: SUTTON GROUP WEST COAST REALTY



Toronto

While not exactly downtown living, this three-bedroom, two-bathroom home fits the first-timer's price point. It is located close to transit, shopping and schools. The open-concept design includes laminate floor and garage access from the inside, all for an asking price of \$324,900. An additional monthly fee of \$190 goes toward snow removal and lawn care.

LISTING: CENTURY 21 PERCY FULTON LTD.

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Become interested in rates

Borrowing money to buy a home is likely going to be the biggest financial commitment you ever make. So it's important to do your research and understand what you're getting into.

Here's a quick guide.

Interest rates

Homebuyers have enjoyed low interest rates for a while now. "And I think they're go-

ing to hold for several more months," said Toronto mortgage broker David Smith. "By the fall, we're probably going to see 3.09 and 3.1 perhaps, and these are still extraordinary low rates and cheap money."

Down payment

Put down at least 20 per cent of the home price, advises Will Britton, a financial

adviser in Kingston, Ont., and a member of Advocis, the Financial Advisors Association of Canada.

You will qualify for a conventional mortgage loan, which is equal to or less than 80 per cent of the lending value of the property. Otherwise, a high-ratio mortgage requires mortgage loan insurance from a provider such as Canada

Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and that will cost more.

Pre-approval

It's important to be pre-approved for a mortgage by a bank. "Given how competitive the marketplace is, if your offer has a condition on financing, you won't win the property," Smith said.

YLVA VAN BUUREN



It's a good idea to carefully consider what you want in a house first before you start looking. STEPHEN COBURN/SHUTTERSTOCK

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ABOUT GETTING PRE-APPROVED FOR A MORTGAGE

Understand the process

JENNIFER
TAPLIN
For Metro

Buying a house can be an overwhelming financial decision.

First-time homebuyers tend to be highly educated and are quite thorough with their research by using online tools to find potential properties and calculate costs. But they aren't as confident when it comes to mortgages and the technical process of buying a house, said Terri Gibbons, with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, who is based in North York, Ont.

"It is important for first-time homebuyers to determine how much they can afford before they begin the process, keeping in mind all of the upfront costs," Gibbons said. "It is recommended that first-time buyers seek out a mortgage professional and ask lots of questions and clarify their understanding along the way."

It's also a good idea to carefully consider what they want in a house first before they start looking, she added. Considerations include number of bedrooms, location, resale potential, and any renovation costs.

"It is costly to move, so these considerations are very important," Gibbons said.

When all the ducks are in a row and first-time house hunt-

ers find the right property at the right price, Winnipeg real estate lawyer Leandro Zylberman advises to take a breath before making an offer.

"When I get into the picture, it's usually after the offer has been signed and accepted," he said. "Once I get that, it's too late to make any changes."

If there are components of the offer the buyers don't understand, they can make the offer subject to lawyer approval, Zylberman advised.

This part of the process is made easier with advice of a real estate agent, who doesn't charge commission for buying a house, only for selling, Zylberman said, which is a definite perk for first-timers.

And don't forget about the closing costs, which can be more than moving and lawyer fees. Many provinces have a land or deed transfer tax that catches many first-time homebuyers unaware.

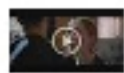
From start to finish, the homebuying journey can be a long one. According to CMHC statistics, first-time homebuyers take three months longer than repeat buyers to make their purchase. That's about 10 months total of planning.

Almost two-thirds of first-time homebuyers are younger than 35, where only 20 per cent of repeat buyers are younger than 35 years of age. A large majority, 82 per cent, of first-time buyers have a post-secondary education.



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Condos. Settle into a different type of lifestyle

YLVA
VAN BUUREN
For Metro

It's a great time to buy a condominium.

The market is more balanced compared to houses, says Toronto mortgage broker David Smith. And there are lots of long- and short-term benefits.

Here is a list to consider:

1 Affordability. While budget will dictate location, amenities and size, a condominium is usually more affordable than a house. "For many first-time buyers, it's the only way to enter the real estate market," Smith said.

2 Availability. There are lots of condos on the market, Smith said, and they are good value — an antici-

pated downward direction of prices hasn't occurred.

3 Ease of living. Christopher Dewdney, a Toronto financial adviser and member of Advocis, the Financial Advisors Association of Canada, says condo fees generally cover maintenance such as snow removal, lawn care, and even indoor plumbing in some cases. Many condominiums

provide amenities such as a pool, fitness club, and outdoor barbecues.

4 Lifestyle. Some condominiums are "lifestyle communities" with regular events such as wine tasting and movie nights where owners can network and meet new friends.

5 Safety. Most condos have built-in security including security cameras

and a concierge.

6 Good investment. "Historically, you see an appreciation in the value of real estate," Dewdney said. That's great compared to renting where you end up with no equity or ownership. A condominium could become a rental property in the future for you, too.

7 Net worth. You are building your net worth.

Through the property, you are building equity, Dewdney said. "If there's a financial opportunity or emergency, you could always secure a line of credit against that equity in the property."

8 Stepping Stone. A condominium will be worth more in the future — if you sell it, you can use the surplus towards a new property or investment.

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MONKEY BUSINESS IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

An investment that's worth the challenge

KRISTA
SYLVESTER
For Metro

Buying your first home can be a daunting task but it's an investment that is worth the challenge, especially if you know the tricks of the trade.

Calgary realtor Bill Leesman is experienced in helping first-time homebuyers find their ideal first home and his biggest advice would be to do their research first.

"You have to be prepared and know what you can afford for a down payment, and what your price range and budget are before you get started," he said.

"First-time homebuyers should be prepared to keep their first home for at least four or five years in order to get enough equity to be able to upgrade to a new home later on. Buying your first home for just a year or two doesn't make much sense."

That's why Leesman recommends buying the right size of home — if you are going to

have a growing family, make sure you have enough room in the house down the road.

And while nice appliances and several bedrooms are always nice to have, they don't factor in to the overall cost as much as some people might believe, Leesman said. Leesman cautions homebuyers to make sure the appliances are in working order or they might have to buy new ones after they move in.

However, developed basements and garages certainly drive the cost up.

"People are actually better off buying homes with undeveloped basements and without garages and then finishing them later themselves. People can generally build their own garage or develop the basement after the fact for less than what it would cost added on to the house price."

Another big factor that can drive up the cost of a home is location. "Busier streets tend to cost less than quieter streets or houses in cul-de-sacs," Leesman said.



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When looking for your first home, should you consider buying the best house on the worst street, or the worst house on the best street? BURLINGHAM/SHUTTERSTOCK

Finding the perfect spot

JENNIFER
TAPLIN
For Metro

The old adage that location, location, location is a top factor when buying a house is no joke. But determining that just right location can be a struggle for first-time homebuyers.

For example, should you consider buying the best house on the worst street, or the worst house on the best street?

"Your value is going to be the worst house on the best street," said Halifax real estate agent Paula Langille. "It's usually the most affordable."

Having the nicest house on the block isn't as advantageous because equity won't build as quickly, she said. But a fixer-upper on a charming street will be worth more in the long run.

"And also your carrying costs will be less than anyone else on the street; your taxes will be a bit less."

Marilynn Strilchuk, a real estate agent in rural Alberta, agrees. She said picking a good community can be the far better choice because of the equity.

And when it comes to choosing which community to live in — city, suburb or rural — there are several factors to nail down first before hitting any open houses.

Strilchuk said if a homebuyer has a family or plans to, they need to check out what services are available, such as schools, parks, and community centres.

Generally bigger houses with garages and large yards are more affordable in the suburbs, but that's not always the case. For example, proper-

Where do you want to live?

Location is a critical factor. A home with everything you need, but in the wrong location is probably not the right home for you. Here are some tips from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to consider about location.

- Do you want to live in a city, a town or in the countryside?
- How easy will it be to get to where you work? How much will the commuting cost?
- Where will your children go to school? How will they get there?
- Do you need a safe walking area or recreational facility, such as a park, nearby?
- How close would you like to be to family and friends?

ties in the Edmonton bedroom communities of St. Albert and Sherwood Park can be pricey, but Spruce Grove and Stony Plain are cheaper.

"Sometimes it's not about what you want when you're a first-time homebuyer, but it's what you can afford," Strilchuk said.

Rural properties provide the space, but they most likely come with a well and septic system instead of a municipal service, Langille said.

Some homebuyers place a higher priority on having a nearby bus route and want to be able to walk to work.

When will you buy your first home?

KRISTA
SYLVESTER
For Metro

If you are in your early to mid-30s and you are just buying your first home you aren't alone.

Almost two-thirds of Canadian first-time homebuyers are younger than 35 years old, with almost half falling between the ages of 25 to 34, according to recent studies.

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) conducted a first-time homebuyer study in 2013 and discovered that consumers are most likely to buy their first home by 35, while only 20 per cent of repeat buyers fall under the same demographic.

"Consistent with a younger age profile, first-time buyers have lower household incomes compared to other homebuyers," said Terri Gibbons, CMHC

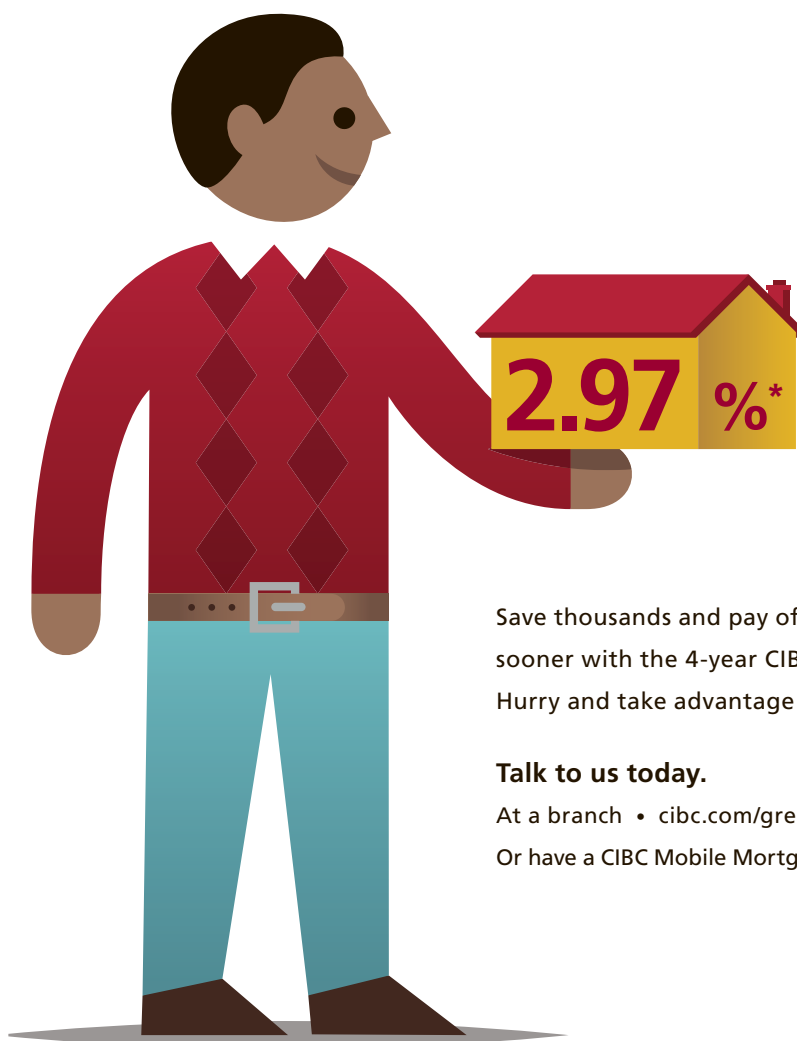
manager of business development for the Ontario region. "Nearly two-thirds of first-time buyers have a household income of \$90,000 a year or less, while one in five have less than \$45,000. And although first-time buyers may have lower household incomes, they tend to have higher levels of education compared to other mortgage consumers."

Gibbons said one particularly interesting statistic is

that almost one-quarter of first-time buyers were born outside of Canada, while almost half of that demographic lives in Ontario.

Meanwhile, the Bank of Montreal recently released its own report on first-time homebuyers that says the average price of a home in Canada has risen 83 per cent over the past 10 years, which is the No. 1 reason Canadians are delaying their first home purchase.

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MICHAEL JUNG/SHUTTERSTOCK

LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION

You have just seven seconds to make a first impression. And a ready smile, neat and appropriate attire, and fresh breath, especially, are all part of making a good one.

On the other hand, bad breath (as well as being grouchy, wearing ill-fitting clothing, and playing with your hair or moustache) leaves a lasting bad impression.

Here are times when good oral hygiene and body care are especially important.

THE COCKTAIL PARTY: There is no way around close contact at a social gathering. You are rubbing shoulders with strangers,



having quick conversations with old friends, and spotting people across the room that you would really like to meet.

A JOB INTERVIEW: Problems like bad breath can definitely spoil your chances in an important job interview. There is going to be a handshake and a discussion, perhaps in close vicinity.

A FIRST DATE: Meeting a potential partner for the first time is stressful as it is. You don't want to worry about your breath. And you certainly don't want to find out that this person takes your breath away — in a bad way.

KARAOKE: Sharing a stage puts



* Crest Complete toothpaste fights cavities. To ensure this product is right for you, always read and follow the label.

you in very close quarters with another person, and if you are belting out a song together into one microphone, yikes.

THE AIRPORT: Whether you are arriving at the airport yourself or you are picking someone up, there are going to be hugs and kisses with all the greetings.

DINNER PARTY: Getting together around a dinner table is what you do to have fun, and you can count on lots of hugs and kisses at the beginning and end.



VLADIMIR GJORGIEV/SHUTTERSTOCK

BAD BREATH CAN BE A BUMMER

Research has shown halitosis is a confidence killer, and can make a person super sensitive about breath problems.

The sooner you determine if you have a problem, the sooner you can do something about it.

To find out:

- Cover your mouth and nose with your hand, and exhale. Now breathe in through your nose. Does the air smell bad?
- Watch how people react when you talk. Do they stand at a distance, or act a little odd after you speak?
- If your partner starts to avoid kissing you on the mouth, there may be an issue. But it may be their breath, too.

What to do? Improve your oral hygiene by brushing your teeth, flossing, and using a dental mouthwash, regularly. Talk to your dentist about your concerns, and be sure to always carry mints and mouthwash, too.

REFRESHING TIPS FOR MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

You have been thinking about this moment for a while. Now the lights are low, the two of you are alone, love is definitely in the air. You lean in, close your eyes and purse your lips for that first kiss — and wait and wait.

OMG. Your date has recoiled. Was it your breath?

Bad breath is actually one of society's oldest and most troublesome social problems. Called halitosis, it can be caused by different factors, including poor oral hygiene, strong smelling foods such as fish, onion, garlic, and even coffee, smoking, and dental and health problems. It is the third most frequent reason — after cavities and periodontal disease — that people see their dentist.

Often, a relationship problem has spurred

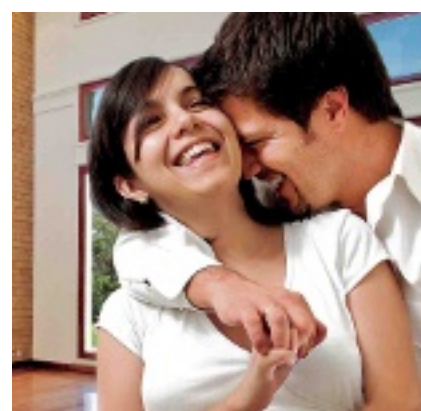
on the visit. Since sense of smell is so closely linked to your emotions, sweet smelling breath has everything to do with love, kissing and connecting — or not connecting.

SINGLE — AND NOT LOVING IT

Bad breath is often referred to as a social life killer. In fact, in research, sufferers say it ruins their life.

Not surprisingly, single people with bad breath often have problems dating, and getting married. Furthermore, they are so anxious about their breath in social settings that they avoid face-to-face encounters and can become loners — and lonely.

Thirty-four per cent of survey participants with halitosis said their bad breath made them hesitant to speak to others.



SANTIAGO CORNEJO/SHUTTERSTOCK

If you are starting to date someone you really like who has bad breath, try some subtle hints such as eating mints after dinner, avoiding strong smelling foods, and even

talking about your own oral hygiene habits.

MARRIED — AND NOT LOVING IT EITHER

In research, sufferers say bad breath causes them to sleep separately from their spouse.

While couples who have been together for a while can be forgiving and understanding, bad breath can still be difficult to ignore, especially in the bedroom. Halitosis is often the reason behind partner rejection and marital problems.

If bad breath is ruining intimate moments, be honest but be kind. Encourage your partner to brush their teeth, floss, and rinse with a mouthwash at least twice a day. This will prevent bacteria from settling in the mouth. If there is a new chronic bad breath issue, check in with the dentist, too.

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Messi, Barca run into Atletico wall

Barcelona's Lionel Messi kicks the ball in front of Atletico Madrid players during their Champions League quarter-final second leg soccer match in Madrid, Spain, Wednesday. Koke's fifth-minute goal led Atletico to a 1-0 win, good for a 2-1 aggregate victory. Atletico, which leads Barcelona by one point in the Spanish league, reached the last four of Europe's top club competition for the first time since 1974. Also Wednesday, defending champion Bayern Munich came from behind to reach its third straight Champions League semifinal and beat Manchester United 3-1, advancing on 4-2 aggregate. **ANDRES KUDACKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Slight change, same intense playoff race

NHL. Wild-card spots a product of realignment, which has also increased the emphasis on divisions

The NHL has gone wild. Well, for the post-season format at least.

While the change, driven by division realignment, to the qualification and seeding system was slight, the final week of the regular season has slanted a little differently than in the past.

Loosely following what other leagues — the NFL and MLB — have done for decades now, the NHL has added wild cards to the playoff pool. Post-season qualification is the same in that eight teams from each conference are included, but it has led to essentially two separate races. Competi-



With a shootout victory over the Bruins on Tuesday, the Wild earned a playoff berth in the Western Conference. **ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

tion for the top three spots in each division is one, with the leftovers jockeying for two wild cards in each conference.

The Minnesota Wild locked up the first one in the West on Tuesday, leaving the Dallas Stars and Phoenix Coyotes to scrap for the last spot. The contenders play on Sun-

day night to finish the regular season, but the Stars took a two-point lead on the Coyotes into their game on Wednesday against Columbus.

"Ideally, you'd probably like to have it wrapped up," Stars defenceman Alex Goligoski said. "It's good to have these intense games where

you need to win and get points, and you need to play a certain way because that's the way the playoffs are going to be. We've just got to keep grinding away."

Detroit and Columbus are in control of the East wild cards. The Red Wings went into their game at Pittsburgh on Wednesday needing only one point to seal their spot, and the Blue Jackets were one point behind them entering their matchup with Dallas.

Despite playing much of the season without several key players, the Red Wings are in position to stretch their playoff streak to 23 straight years. A dry-erase board with team logos and the critical numbers — wins, losses and points — shows the players in their dressing room where the cut lies.

"We've done a good job to keep ourselves above the red line," goalie Jimmy Howard said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Playoff flameouts

Oh, Canadiens!

The Toronto Maple Leafs' playoff hopes ended on Tuesday with a 3-0 loss in Tampa Bay, leaving the Montreal Canadiens as the lone Canadian team left fighting for a Stanley Cup.

According to hockey-reference.com, the last time there was just one post-season participant from north of the border was in 1973 when, yes, the Habs topped the Chicago Blackhawks in the Stanley Cup final. **METRO**



The Canadiens will be Canada's only hope when the playoffs begin. **GETTY IMAGES**

NHL

Canucks bring Linden back as team president

Trevor Linden spent seven seasons as captain of the Vancouver Canucks. Now he's getting the chance to lead the team's front office.

Linden was named the team's president of hockey operations on Wednesday, one day after president and general manager Mike Gillis was fired following the team's failure to make the playoffs. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

MLB

A's top Twins despite new closer's struggles

Derek Norris hit a three-run homer in the 11th inning, and the Oakland Athletics bounced back from another blown save by new closer Jim Johnson to beat the Minnesota Twins 7-4 on Wednesday.

Jared Burton (0-1) gave up the one-out drive by Norris, who went deep on Tuesday night, too. Dan Otero (1-0) got the last eight outs for the victory in relief of Johnson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

The Sun in your birth sign does wonders for your confidence but there will still be times when self-belief deserts you. Keep telling yourself there is no good reason you should fear the worst, now or ever.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

This may not be an easy time of year for you but you can sense that the day will soon be here when your luck turns. Maybe that day will come sooner if you act as if nothing could possibly go wrong.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Tone down your comments because the planets warn if you say something others consider over the top it will rebound on you in ways you had not expected.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Think twice before volunteering to help the less fortunate through a task you know little about. Others may be wowed by your enthusiasm but they won't be so impressed if you make a mess of the job.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Don't expose yourself to any kind of situation where you do not have full control over what happens. Not even your confidence will protect you from people who do not share your sense of fair play.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You seem to have a phobia about something that at other times would not worry you. It may continue for a few days but come the start of next week you'll be all smiles again.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Make sure you know what you are talking about today, especially if you are dealing with people who are experts. If you make claims that cannot be backed up with facts, they will make you look silly.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

For some reason you seem to believe you don't have the talent to be a success. That isn't true. Get your head straight and get on with making your mark on the world.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You have a tendency to say things you don't believe because you enjoy seeing the looks of shock on people's faces. It may be a lot of fun, but it could backfire today.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You can be sarcastic and the planets warn that your caustic way with words could have long-term consequences that damage others and you.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may not get much in the way of thanks for a good deed today but that's OK. The world would be a sad place indeed if we only ever did favours for others because we expected to get something back in return.

Pisces

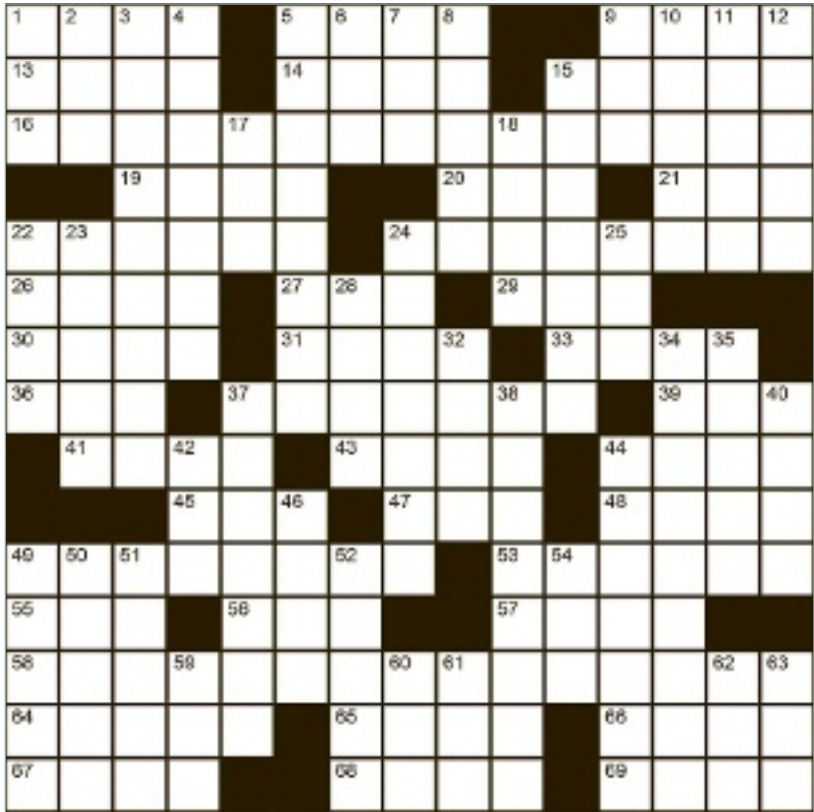
Feb. 20 - March 20

Try not to get angry or frustrated if a goal you are aiming to reach seems to be further away than ever. Just as there is a reason for everything that happens in life so too is there a reason for everything that does not happen. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- Niagara Falls' Maid of the
- Angry arfer's admonition
- Dull
- Wine: ___ Spumante
- Donnie Iris song: "Ah! ___!"
- Accustom
- Toronto: The ___ Theatre (Opened in 1993, it was named after a member of The Royal Family)
- Reclined
- Couplet
- Antacid brand
- House kind
- Herb that sounds like a toast spread
- Interest ___
- ___ roll
- Nero's 54
- ___bitty
- Newfoundland's nickname, The ___
- Broom closet items
- "O Sole ___"
- "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" cast member who is Canadian producer David Foster's wife
- Cdn. capital
- Norway's capital
- Rhyme scheme
- Indebted person
- Retro albums, e.g.
- Spinning stat.
- Reality's Ms.



Leakes

- Peter of HBO's "Game of Thrones"
- About [abbr.]
- A bus driver follows one, for short
- Cobbler's tool
- Switchblade
- "Chasing the

Sunset" band from

- Winnipeg: 2 wds.
- Hotel employee
- God: French
- Mackerel sort
- Their ___ Were Watching God (1937 novel by #51-Down)
- Chick containers

69. Trans-Canada, et al.

- Location locator
- Medit. locale
- Spikes
- Sarah Palin impersonator: 2 wds.

5. Manitoba village,

- home of tourist attraction Sara the Camel
- ___ judicata (Settled court matter)
- ___ al-Khaimah, Middle East emirate
- Valerie Harper title

role

- Genetic info carrier
- Geometry set item
- Field
- Broom-of-twigs
- "Letters from ___" (2006) directed by Clint Eastwood
- Spy org.
- Roll up a flag
- Ladylike
- 3, 14, for example
- Ghastly
- Lacto-___ vegetarian
- 'The Big Easy'
- Start to 'sack' (Hiker's bag)
- ___-Pine Falls, Manitoba
- Office item, ___ pad
- Brand of yogurt
- Syria's capital
- Famed dino
- Currency in Albania
- Singing the right note in music: 2 wds.
- Cut
- Ambition
- "Be that as ___"
- Author, Zora ___ Hurston
- Wooded spot's open space
- Greek letter
- Some stoves
- Fix
- Edmonton International Airport code
- 'Trick' suffix
- Boat's distress

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

Yesterday's Crossword

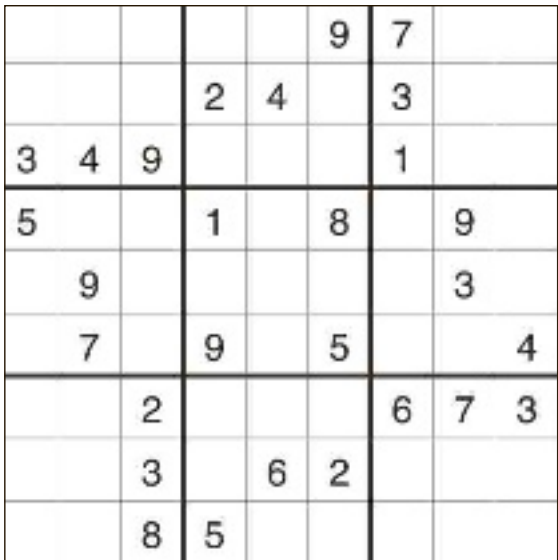


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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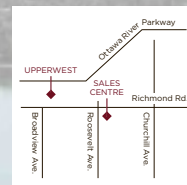
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